FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

10 MARCH 1987

Lebanon

Following his return to Tehran, Iranian Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi briefed the Iranian president on the "positive" results of his talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, IRNA reported. Mohtashemi told Tehran radio that his talks in Damascus were linked to the "imperative need to discuss the problem of the Hizballah," noting that he informed Al-Asad of Iran's view that Hizballah should be allowed to keep its weapons for use against Israel and the United States. The Syrians expressed support for Hizballah's struggle with Israel, he said, and they agreed that arms should remain in the hands of Hizballah and all forces wishing to fight Israel.

Regarding Hizballah's armed presence in Beirut, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio noted PSP leader Walid Junblatt's remark that Syrian forces should deploy in the southern suburb "if fairness is to be observed and all paramilitary activities eliminated." In contrast, Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, a Shi'ite cleric associated with Hizballah, stated that the Syrians will not enter the suburb because "peace and security" already prevail there, according to Voice of National Resistance radio. Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri said there are no security problems in the suburb, but he said the Shi'ite area would welcome the Syrians "when there is a solution for all of Greater Beirut or all of Lebanon," Beirut radio reported. Birri also expressed optimism about the fate of the four kidnapped Beirut University College professors. In Bonn, an FRG spokesman cited by DPA said his government has information that the two FRG hostages in Lebanon are still alive, contrary to a recent UAE press report.

Radio stations in East Beirut reported further clashes between Amal and Palestinian gunmen around the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps 9-10 March. According to Voice of Lebanon and the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon, 6 people were killed and 13 were injured.

Libya

The Syrian entry into Lebanon does not make "sense," Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi told Cologne ARD television, adding that Syria will recognize its "mistake" and "back down." The Libyan leader reiterated his stand against hijacking and hostage-taking; however, he warned that the next generation of Palestinians will be even more "desperate" and will "transport anger and terrorism" to the West.

Palestinian Affairs

Commenting on the *Achille Lauro* affair in an interview with Kuwait's *Al-Qabas*, Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) leader Muhammad 'Abbas stated that PLF fighters disguised as tourists used the ship on three previous occasions to enter the port of Ashdod for reconnaissance purposes. However, the fighters were "not so lucky during the actual operation" and were unable to carry out their planned "suicide operation" against the naval base in Ashdod. He reaffirmed his organization's intention of launching new attacks against Israel, asserting that "the next few months will witness qualitative, distinguished operations."

Israel

A subcommittee of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee will receive a briefing on the Pollard affair but it will have no power to summon witnesses, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir noted in a Jerusalem radio interview. Shamir deplored the "great fuss" about the affair in Israel and he warned that those who are "exaggerating and playing up the matter" are hindering the process of healing the damage in Israeli-U.S. relations. A related report by the radio spoke of a "freeze" in bilateral contacts, noting that there have been no high-level political contacts between the two countries since the U.S. court's verdict in the Pollard case. In remarks broadcast by IDF radio, Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon denied any personal involvement in the Pollard affair and he maintained that Israel has given "infinitely more" than it received in exchanges of information with the United States. Israel has only received a "minute fraction" of the information it needs from the United States, Sharon contended.

Kuwait

Twelve persons were indicted on charges of bombing, arson, and causing a riot, a State Security source told KUNA. All accused are Kuwaiti nationals except for one stateless person. Four others are still wanted. A trial date will be fixed by the Security Court president, the source added.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes raided another maritime target on 9 March, according to an Iraqi military spokesman cited by Voice of the Masses radio.

Arab Summit

The five Arab leaders who met in Kuwait last January agreed to hold an Arab summit before September, KUNA reported, citing the UAE paper *Al-Bayan*.

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AL-QABAS Interviews PLF Leader Abu al-‘Abbas

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[Interview with Muhammad ‘Abbas, identified by his nom de guerre Abu al-‘Abbas, secretary general of the Palestine Liberation Front, by *Al-Qabas* correspondent in Algiers Hatim Ghanim — date not given]

[Text][Ghanim] Your name draws attention particularly following the *Achille Lauro* affair. Can we know the truth from Abu al-‘Abbas himself?

[‘Abbas] The truth is that I no longer desire to talk about the *Achille Lauro* affair, especially because this issue is no more than U.S. propaganda, through which the U.S. Administration attempted to carry out a large-scale attack on the Palestinian strugglers to cover its own involvement in terrorism. It seems that a year and few months after this incident, the *Achille Lauro* affair is still in the minds of many people. Therefore, I will say something to everyone about this affair.

The *Achille Lauro* incident was not a combat or military operation. The *Achille Lauro* was and still is a passenger ship which tours the Mediterranean during the spring and summer months. During its trips, it makes several port calls, among them Palestinian ports in the occupied territory, Ashdot and Ashqelon. Usually, this trip takes 7 days. When we studied the means of transportation to occupied Paelstine, we chose this ship only as a means of transporting Palestinian fighters to their territory — to their occupied homeland — within the framework of a specific combat mission against Zionist targets in the Israeli naval base in that port and against the security of that port.

Developments out of our fighters' control left them exposed aboard the ship, and consequently they were compelled to take control of the ship. The resulting disorder escalated in a dramatic manner that preoccupied us all despite our immediate intervention to put a decisive, final, and quick end to that disorder to prevent it from turning to tragedy. Through cooperation with the friends, brothers, and particularly with the Italians, we succeeded in controlling the situation and in returning the ship, including its passengers and crew, peacefully and without any tragedies, despite what has been said about a killed or a missing passenger, regardless of whether he had existed or not. It is possible that such an incident could have occurred, and on board a ship carrying 1,400 passengers fighting could have taken place. Of course, the planned combat operation did not take place. It might have succeeded, or it might have failed, just like any other operation. The U.S. Administration attempted to exploit this combat operation to launch a large-scale propaganda campaign against the Palestinian revolution, its leadership, and against the Arab, Palestinian, and world struggle for liberation. This was an attempt to form a strong imperialist front against the progressive struggle for liberation to cover its efforts to combat so-called terrorism.

In fact, if we want to talk about the *Achille Lauro* issue, we must not talk about it as an incident isolated from the conflict between the imperialist colonialists and the liberation forces throughout the world, because the *Achille Lauro* affair was a decisive and basic part of this conflict. I can say that this incident was a chapter in the general process of struggle. Before the *Achille Lauro*, the general process of struggle had its own features and approaches, and after it, the general process of struggle had other features and approaches.

Following the *Achille Lauro* incident, the United States tried to mobilize all its allies against the forces of liberation. It also tried to accuse the forces of liberation of terrorism. Not content merely with this, it carried out all forms of terrorism under the pretext of combating terrorism. It carried out state terrorism but without facing any real response from the progressive forces or the forces of liberation. It is regrettable that some of these forces were compelled to take a few steps backward. Some of these forces, which were supposed to be in the trench of the militant forces, directly contributed to supporting the imperialist stand through their theatrical condemnation of the *Achille Lauro* incident. The *Achille Lauro* incident gave to those who claim to be revolutionaries the opportunity to declare themselves as fighters who do not carry out such operations, as though this operation had really been as it had been depicted by the United States. I would like to say here that those comrades on the Palestinian and Arab level who submitted to the U.S. blackmail and who tried to settle some of their accounts in the Palestinian arena — accounts pertaining to the intra-Palestinian dispute in the Palestinian arena — committed a grave mistake and gave the U.S. Administration a weapon it had never dreamed of possessing. Some Palestinian forces called this operation an adventure. Others claimed it served the Zionist enemy's objectives. Of course, all this was because they are afraid of the United States. Some tried to make believe they were experts in militant action, while in fact they are far from being so. Others claimed to be strugglers, but that they do not seek to disturb anyone in the process of their militant struggle. One can say the *Achille Lauro* operation was a political incident and a military operation that did not succeed.

[Ghanim] You mean the *Achille Lauro* was chosen following detailed studies. What was the real objective of this operation? In other words, what did you seek to obtain by seizing this vessel? To leave for Palestine, or was it purely a propaganda operation?

[‘Abbas] Our objective was not to control the vessel. We wanted it as a means of transport to a specific target, just like you taking the plane to go back to Kuwait.

[Ghanim] This means the aim of the operation was to use the ship to reach a specific target in occupied Palestine?

[‘Abbas] When you arrive in Kuwait, you go through passport control at the airport, have your passport stamped, and then you leave. What we wanted to do was reach Ashdod port and leave from there immediately to wage combat against the enemy forces.

[Ghanim] At any place?

[‘Abbas] In the military sector of the Ashdod port, where there is a military naval unit. I had not planned to hijack the *Achille Lauro*. This operation was a transient thing. Suppose you board a plane for a specific destination. A mechanical failure takes place and the plane crashes. The same can happen to a U.S. or

Soviet nuclear submarine, which, as a result of a mechanical failure, causes a catastrophe. Such a failure took place in the operation and put it beyond the control of those who planned it. We never had any intention of taking hostages on board the vessel because our plan had nothing to do with our controlling the vessel.

The plan was not to go to Tartus or Port Said. The plan was to disembark at Ashdod. Everything was studied and carefully planned. We would disembark, pass through customs, and immediately open fire on the naval base at peak hour. It was to be a suicide operation, which was also to be carried out by a group of our comrades who would be waiting at the gate to Ashdod. The operation, therefore, was planned from inside and outside. It was retaliation for the Israeli raid on Hammam al-Shatt [PLO Headquarters in Tunis]. The plan was that, a week after the raid on Hammam al-Shatt, the Palestinian fighters would strike at Ashdod.

Why did we choose this method? Actually, we wanted to tell the Zionist enemy, which possesses all types of sophisticated technology, that while it can use the *Phantom*, aircraft carriers, and other U.S. support to reach Tunis and strike at the Palestinian headquarters, the Palestinian fighter also can strike from a distance by depending on himself. Therefore, the Palestinians took off from Genoa in the direction of Ashdod. The intention was that the Palestinian would reply in the same way and strike with the same severity. There was one difference; the enemy used planes, and we used our bodies. Of course, it was one of several attempts in our long struggle, which will not stop. There will be a success here, a failure there, but the struggle will not stop. We are fighting an enemy superior in its capabilities. Therefore, we have taken all possibilities into account. While we concentrate on the success of our struggle, the enemy concentrates on how to foil our attacks.

Our operation was foiled by hard luck. Hard luck alone was not taken into consideration. We took everything into consideration except this possibility. It never occurred to us, just as it did not occur to the enemies that the Palestinian would come to him disguised as a tourist. Our fighters used this ship three times in the past. The last time was during the trip before the last. A bulletin issued in Greece contains a document confirming this. We showed that document to them to expose the tactics of (?friends). Of course, the enemy was clearly aware of that. Enemy records show that the boat was used for reconnaissance several times. During the trials, many people said certain individuals had used the boat for all kinds of reasons on several occasions.

[Ghanim] So reconnaissance trips were made before the operation itself?

['Abbas] Our comrade fighters entered Ashdod with forged passports three times using this ship. They disguised themselves as tourists. We have photographs proving these fighters visited Jerusalem, Nazareth, Tiberias, and Bethlehem as tourists with forged passports. We published in the bulletin [issued in Greece] the card that is given to every visitor upon landing at Ashdod. The bulletin clearly mentions the name of the traveller and shows the Israeli card with the official stamp on it. The reconnaissance operation was planned very carefully, allowing for no error. But the fighters were not so lucky during the actual operation.

[Ghanim] In fact, the operation received, as you know, negative and positive reactions, and the Genoa judge issued a verdict against Abu al-'Abbas. Since then, Abu al-'Abbas has not been seen. How did Abu al-'Abbas hide all that time? It was said that Abu al-'Abbas was in Belgrade, in Algiers, and in Baghdad. How did he manage to hide all that time and never show up?

['Abbas] Actually, prior to the *Achille Lauro* operation people did not ask about Abu al-'Abbas' whereabouts; after this operation my name was circulated. However, I continued my militant life as before without any essential changes. In the past, given that you are a journalist who knows things, my showing up was constantly linked to a prominent event that required me to show up. Such prominent events were either political ones, such as a national Palestinian rally, or within the framework of a combat action that had to be implemented. From then until now, prominent issues have required my direct presence. Similarly, my relationship with the mass media was basically a limited relationship related to my personal understanding of media work. There has been nothing new, and I have never disappeared as some might imagine. In fact, my movements in the Arab countries diminished for many reasons, foremost of which were Arab reasons. In other words, I did not want to make these regimes bear more than they could shoulder. I do not want to talk about these reasons, especially because the U.S. monster is rooted in the hearts of most of these regimes. Accordingly, I do not want to make them bear more than they can shoulder. Nor do we want to embarrass them or aggravate the state of tension between us and them. Hence, it was better to reduce our movements and allow other comrades to carry out the same tasks I usually carry out, especially because there will be no compelling circumstances for my paying such public visits. Our relations with the Arab countries are actually very limited. Relations existing with some countries are militant relations, and the countries that hosted us before the *Achille Lauro* incident are the same countries hosting us now.

[Ghanim] You know that since the *Achille Lauro* incident, U.S. intelligence, Italian intelligence, and Israeli intelligence — the Mossad — are chasing Abu al-'Abbas. It was said that Abu al-'Abbas was seen in Belgrade. It was also said Abu al-'Abbas visited Baghdad to attend a Palestinian meeting. How did Abu al-'Abbas travel from here to there, and how did he escape these intelligence services?

['Abbas] In fact, first of all it must be pointed out that Abu al-'Abbas is not the only wanted man. Abu al-'Abbas is one of the Palestinian symbols who represent the Palestinian situation and all the Palestinian homeland, who represent the Palestinian who travels among airports for lengthy months without finding shelter, the Palestinian who is searched at all airports and prevented from entering them, the Palestinian who is arrested in all world capitals, and the Palestinian against whom bloody repression is pursued in our Arab capitals. Abu al-'Abbas represents this Palestinian. In this case, we cannot separate Abu al-'Abbas from the Palestinian people's cause. An incident took place that placed Abu al-'Abbas on the list of wanted persons.

[Ghanim] Does this, in your opinion, mean that every Palestinian is Abu al-'Abbas?

['Abbas] Within this context every Palestinian is exactly Abu al-'Abbas. I would like to say that the United States and Israel have been chasing the Palestinian since he was born and since the Palestine question existed. Abu al-'Abbas is not in 'Ayn al-Hulwah, Belgrade, Algiers, or Damascus. If you search in all Arab capitals you may not see Abu al-'Abbas. But you will see him in every Western capital. Abu al-'Abbas was not in Hammam al-Shatt when it was bombed. Abu al-'Abbas is not in Algeria, against which Israel and the United States level threats. Abu al-'Abbas is not in Kuwait, against which threats are leveled and in which explosions and terrorist acts are carried out by U.S. agents. Abu al-'Abbas is a name representing a state of affairs under which the Palestinian people are living everywhere. As for the other Palestinian symbols, it is quite clear that all Palestinian leaders are targetted, regardless of the extent and form of their direct collision with the U.S. program. Consequently, only names and designations differ. I have acted accordingly since the beginning of struggle. By fighting the U.S. and Israeli enemy, I defend my people and my national rights, which the enemy disavows. This enemy, meanwhile, is undertaking a decisive confrontation against us in this militant process. Never have we had any confidence in the United States or the Israeli enemy, and we have always acted out of this consideration. The enemy is wanted by us, and we are wanted by the enemy. Do you think the Israeli or U.S. enemy would pardon us if it managed to hunt us down before the *Achille Lauro* affair? Would the Israeli enemy pardon any hunted Palestinian struggler?

[Ghanim] I understand from your words that you do not stay in a certain place but move freely according to your circumstances. Can you confirm this, or have you curtailed your appearances? Otherwise, how did you manage to get to other places despite intelligence pursuit? Much has been said about Abu al-'Abbas' disguise.

['Abbas] Actually these matters are connected with security arrangements. As long as you clearly realize that the superpower in this world — the greatest power of evil in the world — is devoting its efforts and resources to chasing us, it becomes our duty to arrange our affairs in a manner that foils their plans. Naturally, the level of movement that existed in the past was greater, and one could then move from one place to another quickly. Now I move from one place to another only when circumstances really require my presence. This movements certainly takes place through arrangements that secure our travel without giving the enemy a chance to strike at us or hunt us down.

[Ghanim] Abu al-'Abbas is connected with the *Achille Lauro*. Since the *Achille Lauro* operation, we have not heard about exciting media or real combat operations. Is Abu al-'Abbas planning for certain operations against the Zionist enemy?

['Abbas] On the international level, I can say the *Achille Lauro* operation was a major one. However, on the Arab and Palestinian level my assessment is that all the Palestinians will clearly remember that our front played a prominent role in the major military operations in the Palestinian arena. Our front carried out the first suicide operation in Al-Khalsah, Qiryat Shimona in 1974. It was a distinguished operation in our Palestinian history. The first successful naval operation was carried out by our front in Naharriyya after bitter failures. Our front violated all Zionist security means using a glider in 1980-1981. This is in addition to many operations in which various techniques were used. The front introduced the idea of remote-controlled explosions to the Palestinian revolution in 1968-1969.

On the military level, we believe that fighting against the enemy is a sacred, permanent, and continuous issue. We do not believe a solution to the conflict can be achieved through dialogue only. We also believe that rifles can achieve many objectives, including the political ones. We proceed from our belief in the need to develop means of armed defense. We have made great progress in this field. We have never forgotten that military action against the enemy is permanent and continuous. Military action begins by using stones as well as the by strongest means of fighting

In fact, the distinguished surprise action has more than one objective. The first objective is to embarrass the enemy. When we violate the enemy security with a glider, we are not attacking Tel Aviv with a nuclear bomb. We realize we are striking at the pillars of the Israeli security with a firm will. When we succeed in penetrating via a port, we also realize we do that with a strong will to strike at the pillars of the Israeli security. This is in addition to enemy losses. We believe the main losses are not in the number of those killed. The main objective is to keep the conflict alive, escalate it, to destroy the traditional enemy measures against us, and to inflict losses on the enemy's political, material, economic, and military structure. Within this context, the Palestinian military action and the front's military missions have continued and escalated in the occupied territory. During the past year, more than 20 percent of the PLF operations in the occupied territory were not announced by the PLF. We do not want to compete with certain Palestinian organizations. Our duty is to fight the enemy before summoning up one of our comrades in the press to inform him of an operation. Two or three organizations might claim the operation in advance. We decide not to claim that operation. We only want the enemy to realize the type and size of the fighting. I read many Israeli statements on the distinguished fighting in the past year. This is sufficient for us. When we launch big operations, we will certainly announce them.

And I say to *Al-Qabas* that the next few months will witness qualitative, distinguished operations. Preparations for distinguished combat operations have been underway since the *Achille Lauro* affair. This means that the year between the *Achille Lauro* incident and now was not a year of disappearance, as some may think. We have escalated our fighting well in the occupied territory, reinforced our presence in the military field, and for many months have begun work to escalate qualitative fighting that will be implemented during the coming months. I say frankly, let the enemy take every precaution; he will of course be striken despite his precautions. To be frank, not every mission can be an absolute success. Our enemy is strong and very alert, and missions may fail. But even if a mission fails, we do not consider success our criterion. We fail when we abandon our true programs. However, as long as we are determined to fight the enemy, success and failure are alike. Fighting against the enemy must escalate. We allow ourselves to talk about our political and propaganda affairs only when there is an escalation of fighting. It is not enough to respond with conventional talk to the enemy tampering with our land, masses, and camps. Our preparations are complete. We are now on the threshold of direct implementation of our effective combat program. However, our combat programs continued and were successfully implemented in all areas under occupation during the past year. Our comrades effectively contributed toward defending the camps of our people, participated in the Sidon battles, and fought alongside their comrades in all the battles imposed on our Palestinian people in various places.

[Ghanim] I understand through what you have said that preparations for effective operations are complete. Well, as the conversation has led us to the Palestinian divisions — and particularly divisions that have somewhat dispersed the Palestinian fighters — how does Abu al-'Abbas view the possibility of achieving unity among the Palestinian factions, and how can this unity be achieved?

['Abbas] I must stress that the Palestinian division is not Palestinian. The current Palestinian division is an Arab division. Before 1982, when the Palestinian revolution was still in Lebanon, possessing its full will and enjoying relative independence, there were major political disagreements and diverse opinions, but we were all committed to one Palestinian decision on which we agreed within the framework of the PLO. The PLO used to constitute the home that combines all opinions and all factions. When all the factions were carrying arms and were close to each other, no intra-Palestinian fighting occurred. When our viewpoints split into two conflicting streams, which were then called the rejection stream and the acceptance stream, we did not fight each other and were not divided.

When we accused each other of being agents to this or that regime and also to imperialism and others, this did not result in internal fighting or divisions. The PLO continued as the unifying framework for all the Palestinian revolution groups. When we left Lebanon and lost part of our independent decisionmaking, the main thing then was to regroup and protect the PLO. After leaving Beirut, the only thing proposed to us was the Reagan initiative, which was rejected by everyone without exception. It was rejected by Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and by all hardliners in the Palestinian arena.

So there were no political differences worthy of mention at that time. But then differences were fabricated suddenly, and matters worsened to the point of divisions and, later, intra-Palestinian fighting [in Tripoli]. This fighting led to a grave split within the PLO that has existed up to the present. Let us examine this intra-Palestinian conflict carefully. Is it a conflict between two trends; a rightist and a leftist? Is it a conflict between two different policies? Let us put before us the structure of the PNSF on the one hand and that of the PLO on the other and see how they stand. We will find that PNSF includes Syrian Ba'thists, Abu Khalid al-Amlah with all his ideas, and also the PFLP with its different ideas. So, if we thoroughly examine the PNSF and its poliltical ideology, we will find there are more differences within the PNSF itself than there are between the PNSF and the PLO.

Why do these people regroup within the PNSF and fabricate a crisis with the PLO? In all simplicity, we say all these differences were due to the fact that the little independent decisionmaking we enjoyed in Lebanon was lost when we left Lebanon and that the official Arab policy became more forcefully pressed on certain Palestinian groups, which were then forced to uphold this official policy.

Let us now examine what happened afterward: Dialogue followed by estrangement, then more dialogue followed by more estrangement. Why was this vicious circle? Because Arab policy imposes estrangement after every dialogue. The Aden/Algiers agreement was among the most important ideological and objective achievements of the Palestinian revolution. It was the biggest contribution toward strengthening the unity of the Palestinian people and their organizations. In my opinion, the Aden/Algiers agreement gave unusual gains to the Palestinian resistance groups that were in disagreement with Fatah. Why was that agreement not implemented? Let us forget the Aden/Algiers agreement and talk about the current dialogue. Algerian President Chadli Benjodid has made an unconditional initiative. He gave the Palestinian people and the Palestinian revolution organizations the full freedom to conduct their dialogue in the manner they deem fit to reach Palestinian national unity under the protection of the brother Algerians.

Some organizations responded without conditions. However, when the first step toward dialogue began, conditions were made. The comrades in the DFLP said the meeting should be tripartite. They wanted their meeting with Fatah, the Communist Party, and the PFLP to be conditional on the abrogation of the Amman agreement. The comrades in the Palestinian Communist Party demanded a tripartite meeting similar to that of the DFLP as a condition. Thus, conditions for dialogue began to be set before the dialogue began. I do not see a relationship between a tripartite dialogue and national Palestinian unity. What is proposed is national Palestinian unity and a dialogue among all organizations without conditions. We can freely reach decisions and make conditions within this dialogue. However, we blessed this tripartite dialogue in the same manner that we bless any dialogue between two, four, or five organizations that would lead to a comprehensive dialogue. What we do not want is to use this or that condition to leave the door open for retreat or progress at the expense of the national Palestinian unity. Several famous statements were issued about the tripartite dialogue. The famous tripartite Prague statement was followed by the meeting of five organizations in Tunis. This meeting was scheduled to hold other sessions, but it was suddenly disrupted and voices were raised saying no to such a meeting. They wanted a tripartite dialogue that would exclude the PLO's Fatah mainstream and thus to create a new split in the tripartite bloc that is allied with the independents within the PLO. However, the Palestinian popular organizations form a direct shield for the PLO and its coruse. Is it required to strike at an existing unionist axis at the expense of another unionist axis? In other words, is it required to move from certain shades and shapes of dissidence to new shades and shapes, or to achieve a national unity within the PLO in which, I believe, all should participate regardless of their political views and ideologies?

National unity should come as a result of an unconditional dialogue among the various organizations. Those who abide by the results of the collective dialogue should be welcomed and those who do not should still be included in dialogue. Alienation, in its absolute meaning, should not occur within the Palestinian framework. Dialogue may be held among three or five organizations, and we may agree with four and disagree with two. There should be no problem, although we actually need the unity of all. No organization that can be used by some Arab regimes against this unity should be kept outside this framework. We greatly hope that our colleagues in the Palestinian organizations that call for the need to bolster the PLO's unity will embark on dialogue with whomever attends in the near future to reach common denominators that enhance internal unity within the framework of the Palestinian revolution and that seriously contribute to defending our people and revolution.

In addition to this, I say that of course I did not want to answer the question on this particular point. But let me say at the beginning that true Palestinian national unity without direct Arab influence was manifested during the direct clash between the Palestinian revolution and its enemies [Amal] in Lebanon. East of Sidon, all Palestinian fighters fought in defense of the revolution. These fighters did not wait for political decisions from their leaders. In some cases, the political leaders themselves in Damascus said they asked their fighters in Sidon to fight alongside their brothers in the PLO organizations without waiting for decisions. We are proud of that kind of unity among the fighters on the battlefield. We must struggle to maintain this unity, because it is the best kind of unity. However, this unity will remain incomplete without the unity of the political leadership.

[Ghanim] Are you intimating that there are interferences, pressure, and Palestinian defects hampering stronger Palestinian national unity?

['Abbas] Correct. There is Arab pressure and interference in Palestinian affairs. It is very clear who hampers agreements reached during these Palestinian dialogues. Dialogues must not be affected by political alignment. When we hold dialogues, we do so to agree on a common political line and program that incorporates all views. But what prevents agreement is fear from the reactions of certain Arab regimes, which represent geographical and political interests to some Palestinian groups. We always hear people talk about political geography. They say: Where would we go if they expelled us from here, and where would we go if we are expelled from Lebanon, and so forth. Why does the other side not say: Where would we go if we are expelled from Jordan? Or, Where would we go if we are expelled from this or that country? Why are these questions not raised by other Palestinian leaderships?

[Ghanim] The viewpoint of the brothers is that we have to ensure our existence. The theory of political geography is very important to them so they can remain in a certain place and maintain contact with the Palestinians there?

['Abbas] To this viewpoint, I say that our people exist mainly in the occupied territory. Go to the occupied territory. Our people exist in Jordan, Syria, and also Egypt. Under this logic, we must discuss our affairs anew and try to strike a balance between the political price paid to this or that Arab regime and the results of struggle on Palestinian territory. Why is this theory not brought up in the case of other situations and other geographical areas that are closer to Palestinian territory. I wonder whether your paper may publish such things.

[Ghanim] Talking about Sinai and Egypt, what is your opinion of the Palestinian relations with Egypt?

['Abbas] Actually, I distinguish between two relationships: the PLO's relationship with the Arab countries, and the Palestinian revolution's relationship with the Arab countries. I say the PLO has the right to establish any relations on the basis of its political program. This organization also has the right, or rather it is dutybound, to move on the basis of the PNC resolutions and to establish all forms of relations that do not violate the PNC resolutions. This is because the PLO is the official political entity of the Palestinian people. Within this framework I understand the PLO's relationship with any Arab or non-Arab country. If there are no relations, I have to struggle within the PLO to establish relations here and relations there on the basis of what we have agreed upon in the PNC sessions. The relations of the Palestinian revolution factions with these regimes are something else. Hence, I see no direct fault in the PLO's relationship with Jordan and do not see a direct fault in establishing relations between the PLO and Syria in the future. In this context, the Palestinian-Egyptian relationship is judged in accordance with the PNC resoltuions.

[Ghanim] In that case you support the activation of dialogue with Jordan and maintaining the Amamn agreement?

['Abbas] Actually we are against the Amman agreement. In my view, the relationship with Jordan can continue and develop without this agreement. The Amman agreement is something, and the relationship with Jordan is something else. This is exactly our standard with other countries. There are relations with other Arab regimes without agreements. There is a joint committee for supporting the steadfastness that constitutes joint action, and there are many other formulas. The PLO's relationship with Algeria is without an agreement. The Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is something, and the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship is something else.

[Ghanim] Do you not agree that the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship is special and distinguished and cannot be compared with any relationship with other Arab countries?

['Abbas] In fact and in truth, our Palestinian people in the West Bank and Jordan constitute the main arena of the Palestinian presence. Consequently, we cannot ignore this presence. The Zionist enemy does not differentiate between the Palestinians living on the East or West Bank of the river. Therefore, we must seriously think of how to deal with this situation. There is a continuous relationship between us and Jordan. Knowing these facts, we must form our policy on the basis of this reality. This actually has nothing to do with evaluating Jordanian policy. This is something, and the hypothetical reality is something else. The hypothetical reality stipulates that this relationship must always have a special status in the interest of the national action. Does the current Jordanian policy secure this special status? In fact, I say it does not. We must struggle to secure it on the basis of the PNC resolutions.

[Ghanim] Is Jordan not an essential channel for reaching occupied Palestine, and does blocking this suitable and essential channel not harm the interests of the Palestinian people?

['Abbas] Certainly. Jordan is the gateway to Palestine in the geographical sense. I am only citing some examples. Why do some of our Palestinian comrades justify their special relations with Syria under the slogan of political geography, and simultaneously withhold such a slogan in the case of Jordan.

But if we discuss the justifications given for the Syrian-Palestinian relationship in complete honesty and sincerity, then the same justifications must also be given for the relationship with Jordan under the following basic conditions:

1. Maintaining and defending the independent Palestinian decisionmaking.

2. Safeguarding the PLO'S unity and gains.

3. Continuing the struggle against the Zionist enemy.

We must seek to establish cool and balanced relations with all these states under these three conditions.

Regarding the siege on the Palestinian camps in Lebanon and the war imposed on the Palestinians, Abu al-'Abbas said:
What is taking place in the camps has led to true catastrophes for our people. What is taking place in the camps carries important signs and raises very serious questions — mainly about the harmony between the Israeli program and Amal in southern Lebanon, Sidon, and Beirut. We must give serious thought to this matter. It was not a coincidence for the camps such as Al-Rashidiyah to be besieged and for Palestinians to be expelled from the south at the time when Amal forces were besieging the camps in Beirut and trying to uproot them. Why is the Palestinan prevented from supporting his fellow Palestinian in those areas? Why is Israel preventing Palestinian aid from the sea to our people in the camps?

[Ghanim] Is there any link between the Iraq-Iran war and what is taking place in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon?

['Abbas] In my estimation, there is a close link. This is why I say we must carefully examine this situation. Why is this savage escalation of attacks on Iraq at the time when attacks are being escalated against the camps? Why are the United States and Israel supplying arms to Iran?

Why is the onslaught against Iraq escalating from this axis at a time when the onslaught against our people is also escalating from the same axis? These are extremely important questions. I believe the current Iraq-Iran war is inseparable from what is going on against the Palestinian people in Lebanon. This matter should be clearly pointed out. I believe the Iraqi Army's honorable steadfastness at the gates of Basra was closely connected with the possible results of the deadly attacks on our people in Beirut, because the scheme is directly aimed not only at the Palestinian revolution but also at the Arab nation and its progressive, national line represented by the Iraqi people and the Palestinian revolution.

[Ghanim] Does Abu al-'Abbas expect a U.S. military intervention in Beirut?

['Abbas] I rule out the possibility of a direct U.S. intervention. The United States has not lost all its tools; it still has some capable tools, which are increasing in number. The Israeli-backed Zionized forces are still effective tools for working within the framework of the U.S. program. The large U.S. buildup is continuing. In my opinion, this buildup is part of the attempts to enhance U.S. hegemony in the region. The United States has not so far mobilized anything because no battle requiring its direct intervention is imposed on it. The battle is now raging between us as a Palestinian revolution and the hostile forces, but it does not warrant U.S. intervention. In my opinion, the United States is in a severe impasse as a result of the exposure of its relations with Iran. Following the exposure of the Iranian-U.S. armament relationship via Israel, the U.S. Administration, represented by President Reagan, was in a suspicious position on the U.S., international, and Arab levels. The United States, which made such an uproar, which hijacked our aircraft, and which allocated huge sums of money under the slogan of combating terrorism, has suddenly appeared to be the leader of international terrorism. Scandals came to indicate that the U.S. Administration was the first to violate not only international law but also American law. This has naturally weakened the U.S. Administration, which is looking for a victory that would restore its reputation and make the world forget the Irangate scandal. Hence, we see the the issue of hostages is a propitious chance. Once the United States is certain that it can carry out a quick operation to free the hostages, it will do so directly through U.S. and not Israeli means, although there are Israeli and pro-U.S. local means that can undertake this action. As usual, the U.S. Administration wants to score a direct victory. Therefore, it is on a state of alert in our area to undertake such action unless the hostages are released quickly. I am inclined to believe the Americans are working for a specific scenario.

'Arafat on Camps War, Gulf War, Syria, Egypt

NC100504 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
2119 GMT 9 Mar 87

["Dialogue With an Official" program: Interview with Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, by an unidentified Cairo radio correspondent transmitted through the "radio circuit between Baghdad and Cairo"; date not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] You are continuing your contacts with resistance men in Lebanon and the inhabitants of the camps. What are the latest developments in this regard, especially in the wake of the recent intervention by Syrian forces?

['Arafat] Aggressive military operations against our camps in Sabra, Shatila, and Burj al-Barajinah, as well as the south, are continuing. The siege, starvation, and killings continue. [passage indistinct] The Syrian forces have entered Beirut and formulated a security plan. Doesn't this security plan include Palestinian citizens, Palestinian children, and Palestinian (?women)? The ugly and conspiratorial face of Syrian military and political officials has been unmasked. These Syrian officials have announced they will continue the policy of starvation and siege against the camps until the inhabitants of these camps get rid of all those loyal to the PLO and its leader. In other words, they want to get rid of the Palestinian people. They have seen how referendums and the Palestinian stand confirm that the Palestinian people fully support the PLO.

They want to get rid of the PLO and its men. But what does this mean? It means getting rid of the Palestinians. This [word indistinct] has been exposed by recent statements and by the current practices in Lebanon, especially in Beirut. It suffices for me to point out that the Syrians entered Beirut with Israeli-American approval [words indistinct]. Shamir discussed this matter with Shultz during his visit to the United States. Rabin has said: As long as the Syrians abide by our conditions and do not bring surface-to-air missiles with them into Beirut, we have no objection to their presence there. They are quite satisfied that the Syrians should be in Beirut, in a security capacity, to get rid of the PLO men.

[Correspondent] Mr 'Arafat, how do you view the talks that recently took place in Damascus between Iranain officials and the Syrian regime?

['Arafat] The Iranian officials went there for reassurance about the agreements between Iran and Syria. The purpose of the Syrian plot is to set up sectarian cantons in Lebanon and establish zones of influence for Israel and Syria. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] The [Syrian-Iranian] talks also dealt with the recent developments in the Gulf war. Is there a connection between the two regimes on the developments of this war?

['Arafat] You are aware that we said from the very beginning that the Syrian regime is not only fully committed against the Palestinians, the Lebanese, and the Syrians [words indistinct] as shown by the massacres in Hamah, Palmyra, Homs, Latakia, and Aleppo. It is also against the Iraqi people. There is complete military coordination between the Damascus and Iranian regimes. This includes the purchase of arms by Syria and their dispatch to Iran, along with experts.

[Correspondent] This was exposed at the recent Islamic solidarity summit, at which Syria failed in its attempts. Your Excellency met with President Husni Mubarak and King Husayn at the summit. How do you view [word indistinct] coordination on the peace initiative for solving the Palestinian issue?

['Arafat] [passage omitted] We have good relations with our brothers in Egypt. There is now an attempt to open a new chapter in Palestinian-Jordanian relations. During the Islamic summit, I agreed with his majesty the king to open a new chapter, which began with a meeting of the Jordanian-Palestinian committee for the support of [Palestinian] steadfastness [words indistinct]. We also agreed that further Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue would take place. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] The last question to Mr Yasir 'Arafat: First, do contacts exist between the PLO and Egypt? And second, what is required of the Arab world during this present phase?

['Arafat] I am certainly continuing my consultations with the brothers in Egypt on all levels. These consultations are to confront the dangers that threaten our Arab nation and the Palestinian people, and to confront the war of annihilation being waged against the Palestinian people in the form of killing and starvation. I have the right to call on the Arab nation to ask Hafiz al-Asad to explain what happened to the pledges he made during the 1976 Arab summit in Cairo. Has Al-Asad worked to preserve the Palestinian resistance? Has he protected the Palestinian resistance and the unity of Lebanon's land, people, and institutions? If my appeal to protect the [words indistinct] has not been complied with, then the PLO should at least be given facilities to undertake this protection itself. We are capable of doing so. [passage omitted]

INTRA-GULF AFFAIRS

Mounting Tension Reported on Saudi-YAR Borders

NC061139 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 1 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] Well-informed diplomatic sources told *Al-Safir* that tensions have been mounting on the Saudi-YAR borders for the last few weeks. The tensions, the sources said, could turn into a flareup at any moment.

According to these same sources, the tensions began when Saudi Arabia asked that the borders between the two countries be marked. The request was made against a background of oil discoveries in YAR and Saudi fears of the possibility that YAR could grow self-reliant as a result.

KUWAIT

Investigation of Security Cases Concluded

LD091500 Kuwait KUNA in English 1407 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Kuwait, March 9 (KUNA) — The state security prosecution has finalized investigation in crimes committed by an underground organisation, uncovered recently by the authorities, aimed at undermining the country's unity and territorial safety, a source of the Public Prosecution stated here Monday.

The prosecution referred the cases to the president of the State Security Court to fix a date for trial of the accused, the source added.

In an exclusive interview with KUNA, he explained that members of the underground organisation involved in the crimes number 16 people of whom 12 are under custody and the remaining four still at large.

The crimes for which they are accused include the explosion this year in a parking lot near Salehiyeh complex in downtown Kuwait, bomb explosions in two oil wells and an artificial island in Al-Ahmadi, setting fire to Mina 'Abdallah refinery in June last year and a mob riot before Bayan police station this year.

The source indicated that correlation between the first four crimes has been established by investigation, which showed that the identical criminal activity is the make [as received] of the said underground organisation, he pointed out. As a result, the source stated the four crimes will be tried by the same court to ensure justice, according to Kuwait's penal code.

The 12 accused, to appear before trial, are all Kuwaiti nationals, with the exception of Hassan Muhammed Haji 'Ali, 27, a stateless former teacher with the Ministry of Education. They range between 36 and 19 years and are mostly employed either in the oil sector or with the Kuwaiti Ministry of Education.

Those still sought by police include two teachers, Habib Shaban Haji 'Ali (38) and 'Abdl al-Rahim Ismail 'Ali Neqqi (35), school librarian Basil Hussayn al-Dashti (24) and 'Abdl al-Karim Juma'a 'Abdallah, 25.

Two students are among those under detention pending trial, Khalid 'Abdl al-Masid 'Ali al-Neqqi, 20, of Kuwait University's faculty of commerce and Adel Murtada Kazem, 19, a polytechnic student.

The 12 accused will face charges including joining a group aimed at undermining the country's unity and territorial safety, import of explosives, firearms and ammunition, part of which was Israeli-made, storage of the same and using it in blasting oil installations, public utilities, destruction and damage of state property, attempt to murder citizens and spread panic among them and causing fires through the use of explosives.

The source revealed that the fifth separate crime, to be tried by the State Security Court, involves the mob incident of last January 30th in front of the Bayan police station and related crimes of assault, use of force and violence as well as threats made against some policemen ordered to lie in wait and apprehend one of the accused in state security cases.

According to the public prosecution source, some 26 people, including 15 juveniles above the age of 15, have illegally assembled on the same date, obstructed policemen from carrying out their assigned duties, damaged a number of public and private vehicles and forced policemen to abandon positions around the home of one of the accused.

Under a law stipulation that in case of multiple defendants in a felony including one or more delinquents, they should all be referred to the original court of competence, the source announced that all the 26 accused, including the 15 juveniles, would stand trial before a state security court.

SAUDI ARABIA

AL-HAWADITH Interviews Defense Minister

PM061525 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 6 Mar 87 pp 24, 25

[Interview with Amir Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, by unidentified *Al-Hawadith* correspondent in Riyadh; date not given]

[Text] *Al-Hawadith*: What is the Kingdom's attitude toward the concentration of U.S. fleets in the Gulf?

Amir Sultan: Naturally the Kingdom is against the existence of foreign fleets in or near the Gulf. The reason for the escalation in the presence of these fleets is the Iraq-Iran war, which has compelled the countries to be present because of fears for their interests. We hope that God will inspire them with a suitable formula that would distance the whole area from foreign intervention.

Al-Hawadith: Because we are talking about the Iraq-Iran war and developments in it, is there any hope that it will end in one way or another?

Amir Sultan: There are no signs to suggest that the war is going to end shortly, but the facts of the matter show that the continuation of this war, with the attendant destruction, will be calamitous for everybody. We pray God to inspire all parties to reach a satisfactory conclusion.

Al-Hawadith: You receive defense ministers daily. First the British defense minister, then the Spanish defense minister, and so on. How far can the Arabs rely on Europe? What about the arms deals you concluded with these two countries?

Amir Sultan: The European countries have an advanced military industry, but it is very expensive. There is good cooperation between the European countries and the Arabs; the economic conditions in those countries make such cooperation vital, for on the one hand they are able to employ their manpower and, on the other, they earn hard currency to support their economies. But the Kingdom arms itself only for defensive needs. It has never crossed the Kingdom's mind to prepare for war. We have no expansionist aims whatsoever. All our weapons are for defending the homeland and the holy places.

Al-Hawadith: Were the two visits successful?

Amir Sultan: The visits by the British and Spanish defense ministers are a followup to existing military cooperation. Arms deals were concluded in the past which have led to ties which we are anxious to develop. These visits were cordial and an expression of good sentiments confirming the desire to continue friendship.

Al-Hawadith: It is being said nowadays that the Kingdom is following a new pattern in arms purchases; namely; bartering for oil. Is this true, and how significant is it?

Amir Sultan: This happened only with Britain when, as you know, we purchased the *Tornado* aircraft. The sum of money was vast and came at a time when it was difficult for the Kingdom to withdraw all the sums needed for the deal from its cash funds. The British Government has shown good cooperation, which was in the interest of the Kingdom first and the United Kingdom second. The barter took place exactly in accordance with the quota allotted to us at OPEC and with the prices agreed by that international organization.

Al-Hawadith: In other words, this does not mean that this is a sign of weakness and recession, as some would like to say?

Amir Sultan: Absolutely not.

Al-Hawadith: The recent tension on the Iraq-Iran borders aroused Arab fears and anxieties, which later were followed by reassurance. What was the source of the reassurance? Are there U.S. guarantees and red lines regarding which pledges have been made that they will be defended and will not be crossed?

Amir Sultan: If you are referring to the Gulf states, there is nothing between them and Iran to justify fear and anxiety. What there is between us and Iran is the desire to maintain good-neighborliness and the wish that Iran remain a Muslim state cooperating and fulfulling its duty as part of the Islamic nation. I do not believe there are dangers and risks. There are no American guarantees.

Al-Hawadith: If the Kingdom is called upon to enter a military confrontation with any party, what are its capabilities in such a confrontation?

Amir Sultan: We hope this will not happen. But you must remain assured that the Kingdom's policy is always governed by prudence and reason. But if anybody commits aggression against the Kingdom, we have all the capabilities to resist and repel that aggression.

Al-Hawadith: What is the Soviet Union's attitude toward the Iraq-Iran conflict?

Amir Sultan: All the signs are that it is showing a deep understanding of the need to end this war. We set much store by the Soviet Union's ability and role in halting the war within an international framework.

Al-Hawadith: What about an international conference for solving the Middle East problems with Moscow participation?

Amir Sultan: We support the United Nations and its resolutions and we are in favor of hearing the views of the countries concerned with conflicts and meeting their just demands.

Al-Hawadith: Has the Arab military industry been revived, and will such industry reemerge in Egypt?

Amir Sultan: We respect Egypt and its people, but there is no question of going back to the previous situation now. But the Gulf countries have begun studying the possibility of establishing Arab military industries of their own within the Gulf. Saudi Arabia is contributing to this while maintaining its full independence.

Al-Hawadith: Is Egypt helping with or participating in the Gulf war?

Amir Sultan: I have no knowledge of this. Egypt must adopt any stand conducive to serving the Arab nation.

Al-Hawadith: Are the GCC combat forces of a high standard?

Amir Sultan: They are more than good and, God willing, they are on their way to achieving a high standard.

Al-Hawadith: What about Egypt's return to the Arab fold?

Amir Sultan: My opinion of Egypt is well known; it is loving and positive. But Egypt's return should take place within the framework of an Arab summit.

Al-Hawadith: Will this summit be held shortly?

Amir Sultan: I hope so and I hope that accord will prevail in all the Arab countries and among their leaders and peoples.

Al-Hawadith: Oil tankers are the targets of attacks while sailing in the Arab waters. Is there a plan to put an end to such attacks?

Amir Sultan: I do not believe such plans are being laid because nobody is sure that these actions will continue; rather, they are a transitory matter, and good offices efforts are bound to resolve this matter.

Al-Hawadith: What about Lebanon and the efforts being made to end its sufferings?

Amir Sultan: If I were a Lebanese, I would have tried to solve the problem by shutting the door in the face of all those who interfere in matters that concern the Lebanese and nobody else. The Lebanese alone are capable of resolving their disputes, but as long as there are foreign influences and interference to which the Lebanese yield, their disputes will not end. I appeal to the Lebanese to close their ranks, to love one another, to coexist within the exemplary life which everybody knows about them [as published], and to return to the glorious times prior to the fighting.

Al-Hawadith: The Kingdom uses resident foreign experts. Are the AWACS pilots Americans?

Amir Sultan: The planes' pilots are Saudis, but the instructors stay for a short time and then leave. Therefore, there are no resident military personnel or experts residing in Saudi territory. I assure you that all the military commanders in Saudi Arabia are Saudis and there is not a single foreigner among them.

Al-Hawadith: Are there differences among the Saudi rulers?

Amir Sultan: Absolutely not.

Al-Hawadith: Some evil tongue-waggers say the South Korean workers are, in fact, well trained soldiers whose help the Kingdom will seek if it needs them. What is your comment?

Amir Sultan: This is not true. First, we do not allow military professionals to be workers. Also we do not allow any foreigner to carry out any military action on our land.

Al-Hawadith: Have any military [coup] attempts been made against the Saudi regime and has news of them been suppressed?

Amir Sultan: Never.

Al-Hawadith: What is the state of relations with the United States and the Soviet Union?

Amir Sultan: The Kingdom has good relations with the United States, relations of friendship and common interests as well as relations between two independent and sovereign states. As for relations with the Soviet Union, there are economic relations which we are anxious to maintain. There are no bad relations.

Al-Hawadith: What about the Palestine problem?

Amir Sultan: What matters most is that the Palestinians themselves should get together so that their position will be stronger and so as to make it much easier for their brothers to help them. Meanwhile, the problem is now moving faster than before.

Al-Hawadith: Media hostile to Saudi Arabia have raised questions about commissions on arms sales in Saudi Arabia. What about this?

Amir Sultan: The Kingdom enacted a law more than 10 years ago strictly prohibiting dealing with arms agents and restricting contacts only to governments or manufacturing companies guaranteed by governments. Thus, we have made certain that there is be no room for commission-making or any other irregularities.

Interior Minister on GCC, Internal Affairs

PM081327 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 6 Mar 87 pp 30,31

[Interview with Interior Minister Amir Nayif Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, by unidentified *Al-Hawadith* correspondent in Riyadh; date not given]

[Text] *Al-Hawadith*: Did the Muscat meeting, which was attended by GCC interior ministers to adopt a security strategy, achieve its objectives.

Amir Nayif: The conference was very successful, and a strategy was adopted during it. All viewpoints agreed on the feasibility and objectivity of this strategy.

Al-Hawadith: Was the security strategy your personal idea or was it a general proposal?

Amir Nayif: In fact it was an opinion and a proposal in which the council of GCC interior ministers and its general secretariat participated. This strategy was the focus of the ministers' study and attention in 1985. Then the interior ministers assigned the undersecretaries to draft the strategy in coordination with the general secretariat bearing in mind that the principles of this strategy had been previously approved at the Gulf summit. Thus the recent conference achieved all its objectives.

Al-Hawadith: Who called for this emergency meeting: Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, or others?

Amir Nayif: In fact, it was the Omani interior minister who issued the invitation after the undersecretaries completed their studies in agreement with the general secretariat.

Al-Hawadith: It was said in certain circles that Kuwait was the party that called for the meeting with the aim of acquainting the Gulf states with the immplications of the plot that started with explosions in Kuwait and which was aimed at other Gulf states as well. Is this true?

Amir Nayif: The strategy is not a product of an instance but the result of ideas and long studies. As for the call for the meeting, I have already told you who issued it and how it was launched.

The adopted strategy has taken the situations now prevailing in the region into consideration. It has also taken into consideration security cooperation and the continuation of the comprehensive security theory from all aspects and through the participation of all parties; namely, defense, educational, media, and pedagogical organs so that every sector will shoulder its responsibilities whether toward individuals, institutions, or companies because this calls for the pooling of all efforts to achieve comprehensive security. This includes ideological security. It is a matter to which we pay attention to be able to ideologically protect our society. Therefore, we enter the arena ideologically from a security angle to employ all radio, television, and press media. Then comes food security, which is equally important. This is in addition to social security as well as other tasks regarding combating crimes. This means that we in the Gulf states have no expansionist ambitions and we do not want to impose our viewpoint or method on anybody. But we simultaneously reject anybody imposing anything on us that may violate our faith. We, of course, concentrate on Islamic Shari'ah because it is the guide of our society with its sublime and guiding teachings as evidenced in its legislations which are the authority. We reject the attempts of all those who are trying to interfere in our affairs from outside our region. This is what we reject but we continue to respect others and care for establishing cordial relations based on mutual respect.

Al-Hawadith: Why was the Oman session called extraordinary?

Amir Nayif: Because it was outside the framework of the ordinary sessions which the GCC interior ministers hold annually prior to holding a Gulf summit in order to present all viewpoints and proposals to the summit. This meeting was held to submit the strategy to the next GCC summit.

Al-Hawadith: Has Kuwaiti Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad briefed you on the details of the investigations that took place in Kuwait regarding the incidents aimed at Kuwait as well as other Gulf states?

Amir Nayif: It is natural that we review such incidents and their details. We are in contact with Brother Nawwaf, who is always eager to put us in the picture. Our meeting was an opportunity to have a broader perspective and appraisal of the matter. We were pleased with the Kuwaiti control over matters and with measures taken to ensure the success of the Islamic summit and the safety and security of both conferences. We were also glad that Kuwait has been able to unravel all mysteries the way it did.

Al-Hawadith: Do you believe that after signing and implementing this strategy security will comprehensively prevail and that there will be a rapid deployment force that would respond to any attack or sabotage attempt in the Gulf states?

Amir Nayif: This matter requires efforts, coordination, preparations, and time. Before the strategy was adopted, all the Gulf states were ready to participate with all their material, military, and security sources to ensure the security of the GCC states and the safety of their citizens.

Al-Hawadith: Did any unannounced terrorist acts take place in the Kingdom?

Amir Nayif: None whatsoever; there have been no attempts.

Al-Hawadith: Is there any Gulf and international coordination to combat terrorism?

Amir Nayif: Gulf coordination does exist and is in effect. As for coordination with other states, it has not yet materialized.

Al-Hawadith: You have said this security strategy comes within the framework of the principles agreed upon among Gulf officials. What do you mean by this?

Amir Nayif: These are principles, objectives, and methods that had been agreed upon and studied beforehand.

Al-Hawadith: Let us talk about drugs. Are drugs smuggled into the Kingdom across the northern borders, Lebanon, or from the direction of Pakistan?

Amir Nayif: Regrettably, most of it comes through the northern borders though not necessarily from Lebanon. Some consignments come by sea, but we soon foil them. Limited quantities are smuggled from other areas carried by persons arriving from there.

Al-Hawadith: You have embarked on an appreciated enlightenment campaign against the dangers of these destructive drugs which are aimed at harming countries by corrupting their young generations. What about the followup to this action?

Amir Nayif: In fact, drug-taking is still limited in Saudi Arabia. I was anxious to focus on this subject during our meetings as ministers of Arab Gulf states and also through contacts I made with interior ministers in other countries which might be a source or conduit for drugs. We have reached an understanding and agreement on this serious matter. We, in the Kingdom, pay great attention to this matter and are anxious to involve all parties in it. For instance, we have formed an national authority for combating drugs in which universities, educational officials, and those concerned with youth care participate. We are studying effective measures of guidance and enlightenment through the media. I believe, and many would share this opinion, that the drugs disease is the most dangerous corruption our world has faced in modern times.

We, in our region, are targeted. The youth are the country's backbone; if they are corrupted the homeland will fall apart and collapse. I said to my brothers, the interior ministers, during our recent meeting in Tunis that man can be corrupt in his conduct but if only his health can remain sound, God might direct him onto the straight path so that he can become a straightforward person. Someone might suffer a disease but when he receives treatment he recovers to become a good element in his society. But drugs ruin both the body and the mind and, therefore, it will be impossible to straighten out a drug addict. I cannot imagine a head of a family who finds that a member of his family has become a drug addict being able to maintain his calm and self-control. It is a calamity that affects the entire family. If this epidemic becomes widespread in the Arab family, God forbid, it will destroy our youth who are the men of the future whether in the fields of education, security, army, or guidance. If the young, who are the hope and the backbone, are corrupt, everything will fall apart. How can we trust an army that takes drugs? How can we have confidence in security and education men who are drug addicts? It would be a disaster beyond imagination. Behind such attempts there are parties hostile to Islam and Arabism trying to corrupt the young people and destroy society. I believe that although responsibility legally falls on the shoulder of the Interior Ministry, it is in fact a public responsibility that should be shared by all, especially the press. The press should pay attention to this matter, alert the people to the danger, and pursue the campaign of enlightment and frankness with the young, women, and men and with our fathers and mothers as well as with the educationalists so that they will all be aware of this danger and its risks. If the disease spreads it will become difficult to cure. We, thank God, belong to a faith that prohibits such practices because they are harmful.

Amir Nayif added: This calamity spells disaster although a limited one; as far as our society is concerned it is still at the beginning of the road. My powers are limited and therefore I call upon everyone, from every domain, to join me in shouldering this public responsibility because we all are concerned with this disease. We have to launch an effective campaign to fight this destructive disease and to throw light on the dangers of drugs. The campaign should specifically aim at:

1 — Knowing very well the dangers of drugs and familiarizing everyone with them.

2 — Selecting effective measures to combat drugs scientifically.

3 — Instituting a radical punishment that would deter such practices because we consider the addict a sick person but we regard the smuggler and pusher as criminals. A person holding a gun might fail to kill his opponent because the latter might be able to escape from death, but the drug pusher does not miss his victims because his destruction of them is inescapable and because he turns the youth into living dead people. He is a danger to a whole generation. Therefore, we must awaken the conscience of criminals — smugglers and pushers — and try to achieve this on the grounds that they should fear God so that they can reform themselves, refrain from such a trade, and seek an honest living. Otherwise, society should punish them severely and make an example of them. Anyone who knows that someone is a drug trafficker or pusher and fails to inform the authorities of this fact is also a criminal.

Al-Hawadith: Are there any political prisoners in the Kingdom's jails?

Amir Nayif: There is not a single political prisoner.

Al-Hawadith: Are the communists active in the Kingdom?

Amir Nayif: No, they are not active here.

Al-Hawadith: Are there any communists in jail?

Amir Nayif: None.

Al-Hawadith: You were a pioneer in the utilization of computers on such a large scale in administration, beginning with the interior ministry's services. Any further developments in this regard?

Amir Nayif: We have made big strides in this regard in the Interior Ministry and in other government sevices. Our data center has reached a high standard; we have expanded and depend on it completely. We have also created a Saudi technical corps of a very high standard which, in my view, is a more important achievement because you can import machinery from anywhere but you cannot import the personnel. Morover, young Saudi men have acquired high technical qualifications to operate this complex equipment.

Al-Hawadith: Are there any border disputes between the Kingdom and its neighbors?

Amir Nayif: There are no disputes in the strict sense of the word, but there are certain borders with some of the sisterly states that have not yet been finally demarcated though we are in the process of doing so.

Al-Hawadith: Has Kuwait any reservations regarding the comprehensive and unified security agreement [among the GCC states], or has this reservation been withdrawn?

Amir Nayif: Kuwait had certain reservations regarding the agreement. We hope all the reservations will be removed because as interior ministers, we have decided that the comprehensive agreement is one of the principal means for carrying out the strategy.

Al-Hawadith: Do you believe the terrorist attempts taking place are the result of the Gulf war?

Amir Nayif: The Gulf war had the greatest influence on such attempts taking place.

Al-Hawadith: Does the Gulf war show any signs of coming to an end?

Amir Nayif: Unfortunately, we cannot see an imminent end to it although efforts to this end are still being made and we hope they will bear fruit.

Al-Hawadith: Has the crime rate decreased or increased in Saudi Arabia?

Amir Nayif: If we take the increase in population and in the number of aliens into consideration, then we can say crime is receding.

Al-Hawadith: Are there any measures to ban aliens from taking up residence in the Kingdom.?

Amir Nayif: This is a matter that is decided upon in the light of need and of work opportunities. We look upon the matter objectively and in accordance with the country's need for skilled workers or laborers that we might decide to employ as the need arises.

Al-Hawadith: What about the camps war in Lebanon?

Amir Nayif: One can hardly believe that such a tragedy could take place. Nobody accepts that this tragedy should continue.

Al-Hawadith: What about the situation in Lebanon and in the nation in general?

Amir Nayif: It is even a greater and worse tragedy. What is even worse is that there is not a ray of hope as to how this painful and sad siutation can be brought to an end.

Al-Hawadith: What about the Austrian interior minister's visit?

Amir Nayif: It was in return for my visit to Austria. The visit was successful and symbolic of Austria's friendship with the Arabs and its support for the Saudi causes as well as of its readiness to provide us with the know-how that we need as well as with the equipment that we believe is necessary for our requirements.

Al-Hawadith: Are there any foreign military bases in the Gulf?

Amir Nayif: Not a single base. The Gulf countries are open and whoever doubts this can verify and see with his own eyes.

Al-Hawadith: Are the Gulf countries considering establishing their own military industry?

Amir Nayif: There is such a desire and interest in this matter.

Al-Hawadith: Are there any reservations regarding Arab nationals coming to the Kingdom and residing there? Will barriers and difficulties be placed in their way?

Amir Nayif: Never. Indeed, they have a distinguished status in the Kingdom as there are no reservations on their presence here and no restrictions. They are in their own country and special treatment is accorded to them.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Receives Qatari Interior Minister

LD081948 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1645 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Riyadh, 8 Mar (SPA) — The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received Qatari Interior Minister Shaykh Khalid ibn Hamad Al Thani, and the accompanying delegation, at Al-Yamamah Palace today.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abdf al-'Aziz, interior minister, and Mr 'Abdallah Salih al-Mana, the Qatari ambassador to the Kingdom.

New Air Force Commander Appointed 9 March

LD092213 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Excerpt] A royal decree has been issued today appointing Staff Air Major General Ahmad Ibrahim al-Buhayri as commander of the Saudi Royal Air Force. [passage omitted]

UAE

Oil Issues Discussed With Iranian Official

JN061404 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1240 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Al-Shariqah 6 Mar (WAKH) — Shaykh Dr Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, UAE Supreme Council member and Sharjah ruler, received Iranian Deputy Oil Minister Kazempour Aradabili at noon today. The Iranian official arrived here this morning.

In a statement after the meeting, Shaykh Ahmad Sultan al-Qasimi, minister of state and head of the Sharjah Oil and Minerals Department, said talks during the meeting dealt with oil issues, particularly how to exploit the new oil discoveries on Abu Musa Island and how to exploit the new Al-Thamamah gas reservoir discovered in the (Mubarak Marandi) oil field. A new well has recently been drilled and it is now being examined to determine the quantity of gas in it.

Shaykh Faysal Ibn Khalid ibn Sultan al-Qasimi, chief of the amir's office in Sharjah, attended the meeting.

Minister on Censorship, Local Press, Arabsat

JN061114 Ubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 3 Mar 87 p 7

[Interview with Information and Culture Minister Ahmad ibn Hamid Al Nuhayyan by Yusuf Karkuti — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Karkuti] Do you believe there is a need to amend the press and publications law? Do you believe such an amendment will be connected with recent GCC summit resolutions on information?

[Al Nuhayyan] We do not see any justification to amend the UAE press and publications law at present. However, we are always following its application and have been observing it since it was enacted 6 years ago. The moment we feel the law should be amended we will do so in accordance with valid practices. [passage omitted]

[Karkuti] It is observed that press censorship is based on old methods pertaining to form and not substance. Do you not believe in the need to develop the methods of this censorship to make the media a means of guidance and education?

[Al Nuhayyan] [passage omitted] Censorship was originally established to make the various means of expression a source of guidance and education, not a source of harm and distortion. Censorship is not confined to thought. It does not mean restrictions on cultural trends. The aim is to protect our ideology and culture against anything harmful to our religion, country, traditions, and ancient heritage. [passage omitted]

[Karkuti] There have been calls for establishing a journalists association in the country, given the great number of professional unions and newspapers. Do you believe the time has come to establish such an association? What will be the ministry's role in supporting the idea and implementing it?

[Al Nuhayyan] Nobody suggested to us the establishment of such an association. If such an idea is proposed, we will consider it from various angles in light of our concern for the local press and our extending to it the means of continuing its service for society. We will then make the appropriate decision which will be in harmony with the country's interests.

[Karkuti] Under the current economic conditions, to what extent does the state support the local press, given the high cost of publishing a newspaper?

[Al Nuhayyan] I must point out that the government's support for newspapers is not confined to material backing but extends to more vital fields; namely, providing the proper atmosphere for journalistic work within the democratic spirit which prevails in the UAE. Yet the government extends limited support to the local press to help it carry out its tasks. I do not believe the difficult economic situation through which we are passing has any affect in this respect because the government's backing has never been so great that a reduction in it would reduce the government's expenditure to a noticeable degree.

I take this opportunity to reiterate to our local press to exert further efforts to develop their own resources on a sound economic basis. A number of Arabic- and English-language papers have succeeded in this regard. [passage omitted]

[Karkuti] To what extent has UAE television benefited from Arabsat? Is there a plan to expand exchanging programs and television broadcasts with Arab States?

[Al Nuhayyan] The UAE interest in exchanging programs and news with Arab states was manifested in UAE participation in the works of all the committees which were composed by the GCC or the union of Arab radio stations. The UAE participated in establishing rules and regulations for this exchange.

UAE television participated in the process of exchanging news and programs through Arabsat from the beginning, despite the fact the land satellite station in Al-Dhayd is not yet operational. Therefore, any plan to expand the exchange of programs with Arab states will depend on operating Al-Dhayd station and on the desire of other sides in this exchange, given our desire to do so. [passage omitted]

YAR

Committee Meetings With Sudan Begin in Sanaa

JN071348 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] The meetings of the joint Yemeni-Sudanese ministerial committee for economic, cultural, and technical cooperation began at the Prime Ministry this morning. Brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the Standing Committee; and Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi, Sudanese deputy prime minister and foreign minister, chaired the meetings. Brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani welcomed the Sudanese brothers and praised the strong relations between our country and fraternal Sudan. He said: Our meeting is a rare opportunity to discuss mutual interests and concerns. He indicated there are mutual concerns in our Arab region that the two fraternal countries should confront to serve the two fraternal peoples and Arab nation.

Brother al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi noted the developing Yemeni-Sudanese relations. He affirmed that the Yemeni people have deep cultural and revolutionary roots and are currently promoting their culture by relying on the vigor of their young people. He expressed optimism over progress in Yemeni-Sudanese relations in all fields. Afterward, the committee discussed a number of common issues.

Today's session was attended on the Yemeni side by Brothers Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Jayfi, education minister and member of the Standing Committee; Muhammad Sa'd al-Qubati, our country's ambassador to Sudan; and a number of Foreign Ministry, Education Ministry, Health Ministry, and Central Planning Department officials. It was attended on the Sudanese side by Brothers Bakri Ahmad 'Aziz, education minister; 'Abbas al-Latafi, Sudanese ambassador in Sanaa; and a number of Sudanese Foreign Ministry and Education Ministry officials.

Salih Receives Al-Hindi

JN091618 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 9 Ar 87

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received Brother al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi, Sudan's deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this afternoon. They discussed bilateral ties and Arab and international issues of mutual interest. Al-Hindi conveyed to the president a letter from his brother Ahmad al-Mirghani, chairman of Sudan's State Council, with an invitation for the brother leader to visit the sisterly Republic of Sudan. President Salih accepted the invitation, and a date for the visit will be set later.

The meeting was attended by Brothers Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the Standing Committee; Mujahid Abu Shawarib, deputy prime minister for domestic affairs; the chief of staff; our country's ambassador in Khartoum; Sudan's Minister of Education Bakri Ahmad 'Adil; and the Sudanese ambassador in Sanaa.

Meetings End; Delegation Departs

JN091920 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] The meetings of the joint ministerial Yemeni-Sudanese committee for economic, cultural, and technical cooperation concluded today. They were cochaired by Brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi, Sudan's deputy prime minister and foreign minister. During the concluding session, minutes were signed activating a 1975 bilateral agreement on cultural, educational, informational, and technical cooperation.

At the end of the session, Brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani noted the profundity of Sudan-YAR relations in the best interests of the two fraternal peoples, stressing that the joint ministerial committee meetings should help foster the ties in the overall Arab and Islamic interests.

Brother al-Hindi said he was pleased to be in the midst of his brothers and kinfolk in our country, adding that he was grateful for the fraternal sentiments shown to him and his delegation that attest to the close ties binding the two sister countries.

The Sudanese deputy prime minister and foreign minister and his delegation have left Sanaa after a visit of several days to our country, during which they attended the meetings of the joint ministerial Yemeni-Sudanese committee for economic, cultural, and technical cooperation. In a predeparture statement to SABA', Al- Hindi said he was grateful for the warm reception and hospitality accorded him and his delegation. During his talks with President Salih, the Sudanese deputy prime minister said, it emerged that the two countries see eye to eye on concerns of the Arab homeland. He was impressed by the YAR's handling of the challenges facing the Arab nation, Al-Hindi added. He described as very successful the talks he had with the deputy prime minister and foreign minister and the minister of education. Al-Hindi hoped the close ties between the YAR and Sudan would be strengthened in the interest of both countries. He and his delegation were impressed by the progress made by the YAR in various fields.

On hand to bid the Sudanese delegation farewell at the airport were Brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani and other officials, as well as the Sudanese ambassador in Sanaa.

Kuwaiti Official Arrives on Visit 8 March

LD082043 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, [Kuwaiti] minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived in Sanaa this afternoon on a visit to the YAR to last several days.

Delivers Message From Amir

JN090737 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received Brother Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs, at his office today. Al-'Usaymi conveyed a message to the president from his his brother Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

Attending the meeting were Brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of state for unity affirs; and Kuwaiti ambassador in Sanaa Musa Sulayman al-Musa.

Soviet Metallurgical Union Delegation Arrives

NC031713 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) — A delegation from the Metallurgical Industry Workers' Union of the USSR, led by union Secretary Valentin (Jotchenky), arrived in Cairo this afternoon for a week-long visit at the invitation of the Egyptian General Trade Union of Workers in Engineering, Metal, and Electrical Industries.

During the visit, the Soviet delegation will hold talks with Sa'id Jum'ah,Egyptian General Trade Union chairman, and other union officials, as well as with the head of the Egyptian Workers General Union. [passage omitted]

Mubarak Receives Telephone Call From King Husayn

NC092225 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2200 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 9 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received a telephone call from King Husayn of Jordan this evening following the king's return from visits to the FRG and Iraq.

President Mubarak and King Husayn reviewed matters of mutual interest and discussed the latest developments that have taken place in the Arab arena.

'Abd al-Majid Confers With Israeli Arabs 9 March

NC091520 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 9 Mar (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met today with 'Abd al-Wahhab Darawshah, Labor Knesset member, and Ibrahim Nimr Husayn, head of the Arab Local Councils Committee in Israel. They discussed the peace efforts currently underway, as well as Egypt's drive to achieve a just and comprehensive Mideast settlement and to bring an end to the hardships suffered by the Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories.

Darawshah and Husayn expressed their appreciation for Egypt's leading role in the efforts to secure peace and their support for the convocation of an international conference on peace in the Middle East.

Communist Party To Participate in Elections

NC091553 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 5 Mar 87 pp 1,9

[Excerpt] Cairo, Amin Radwan: The Egyptian Communists have decided to participate in the next People's Assembly elections as independents, in accordance with a platform to be presented to the electorate.

The Egyptian Communists' decision to take part in these elections was made after the 5 February conference held by Egypt's opposition parties called for all Egyptian political forces to have the right to form their own parties.

It should be remembered that the Egyptian Communist Party and the Muslim Brotherhood are illegal organizations in Egypt.

The communists will participate in the elections in coordination with the NPUG.

According to this decision, Nabil Hilali, member of the Lawyers Union Council, will run for election in the south Cairo constituency. Mubarak 'Abduh Fadil, who was a defendant in a case involving the Egyptian Communist Party, will be a candidate in the first constituency of north Cairo. Mahmud Amin al-'Alim will be a candidate in either the east Cairo or the central Al-Jizah constituency. [passage omitted]

Communique Says 2 'Large Maritime Targets' Hit

JN091751 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Communique No 2,598 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 9 March 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Iraq's forces, which are supported by God and which are superior in number, equipment, and morale, are lying in wait for the enemies of Iraq and peace, determined to destroy their remnants everywhere and anytime. The following are the overall activities for last night and today:

1. Carrying out 24 combat missions today, the planes of our gigantic Air Force attacked enemy concentrations in the operations sectors, killing large numbers of the criminal scoundrels, blowing up several ammunition dumps, and destroying a large quantity of weapons and equipment. Epitomizing the will of our glorious people in cutting off the oil supplies of the Iranian regime, which uses these supplies for aggression and destruction instead of using them to eliminate the hunger and misery of its people, our brave fighter planes dealt accurate and effective blows to two large maritime targets near the Iranian coast at 1305 (1005 GMT) and 1335 today. The genuine hawks returned to their bases safely, victoriously, and in God's protection.

2. The brave Iraqi soldiers shelled the enemy positions opposite our units in the operations sector of the heroic III Army Corps using artillery, tanks, mortars, and infantry weapons. The shelling inflicted heavy losses on the enemy in personnel, equipment, and engineering equipment. It destroyed eight vehicles, some of them carrying personnel, and killed or wounded their occupants; it destroyed eight shovels [preceding word in English], one armored personnel carrier, a number of observation posts, gun emplacements, and infantry positions, and killed many scoundrel Khomeyniites in them.

3. The heroic VII Army Corps continues to extend effective support to the III Army Corps with all types of weapons. As a result, many scoundrels were killed and their weapons, equipment, and positions destroyed. The VII Army Corps also destroyed many enemy positions, killed many personnel in them, and blew up several ammunition dumps opposite them.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 9 March 1987

Lloyds Confirms Attack on Iranian Tanker 7 March

JN091639 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] The British insurance company Lloyds today affirmed that an Iranian oil tanker, *Khark 5*, was hit near the Iranian coast the day before yesterday. Lloyds said the Iranian tanker, which was hit by Iraqi fighter planes, was heavily damaged and the engine room was flooded with water. It also said the tanker weighs 131,606 tons, was built in 1975, and is owned by the Iranian tanker company.

An Iraqi military spokesman had stated that our fighter planes dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast the day before yesterday in the morning.

AL-DUSTUR Examines 'Paradoxical' Pollard Case

JN070933 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 7 Mar 87 pp 1,23

[Editorial: "The Pollard Case; Lessons To Be Learned"]

[Text] The sentence handed down by an American court of law in the case of Jewish spy Jonathan Pollard was a virtual indictment of the policy of a country that cannot survive without U.S. aid and yet engages in espionage against a superpower that has given it unimpeded access to its secrets and happens to be its strategic ally in the Mideast. It is indeed paradoxical that a country that counts itself the closest ally of the United States should eavesdrop on its key ally, as if that which U.S. security and intelligence services already provide to Israel, bound by an unparalleled alliance with Washington, is not sufficient.

We do not wish to gloat over the misconduct of the United States, which has for too long blindly followed Israel in affairs of this region. We would, however, like the United States to learn a lesson from the Pollard case, not from the angle of an espionage issue, but for the characteristic Israeli vileness, treachery, and deception this affair has brought to the fore. Such Israeli behavior typifies Tel Aviv's attitudes and political stands vis-a-vis various issues in this part of the world.

We do not know whether successive U.S. pronouncements that the Pollard case has not hurt relations with Israel truly reflect the position of U.S. circles concerned about their country's security system or whether they represent the gist of the lesson learned by an Administration tired of the Irangate vertigo.

We hope there will be a true rethinking of U.S.-Israeli relations in light of this unusual case between two nations bound by an exceptional relationship and a strategic alliance. We do not believe U.S. public opinion will forgive Israel for this espionage crime, no matter how hard President Reagan's exhausted administration tries to gloss over this new scandal or to conceal its repercussions from the American public.

Paper Sees FRG Role To Secure U.S. Summit Support

JN061022 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 6 Mar 87 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "Jordanian-German Talks"]

[Text] The talks held in Bonn yesterday between His Majesty King Husayn and FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker have produced positive results, one of which was the German leader's reiteration of his country's support for an international conference and his praise for Jordan's constant policies led by King Husayn seeking peace, security, and stability in the Mideast. This means the German side now understands the Palestinian cause and the situation in the area better than at any time before. It also means Jordan's political principles regarding a just and comprehensive solution to the Mideast problem, as outlined by King Husayn to President von Weizsaecker, are held in high regard.

It can be said without exaggeration that the immediate success produced by the Jordanian-German talks should enhance the role of the FRG both inside the EC and in the European arena, because it does not limit itself to theoretical support of Arab rights but goes beyond that to positive practices, including FRG contribution to Jordan's economic development plan.

Undoubtedly, constantly developing Jordanian-German relations are a potential model of Arab-German positive cooperation and shared understanding of the Mideast situation and of dynamism to the peace process in the region.

In the face of Israel's blackmail attempts, the FRG has maintained a position supportive of Palestinian and Arab rights and has built bridges to the Arab world, underpinned by mutual trust and respect. The cordial atmosphere surrounding the meeting between King Husayn and President von Weizsaecker strongly testifies to the success of Jordanian-German relations in particular and Arab-German relations in general. Against such a backdrop, Bonn can develop and energize a European role, bring the U.S. Administration around to the concept of an international conference, and force Israel to drop opposition to it. This is primarily because the German contribution to a European role counts for much and is well respected by Arabs.

It is well worth pointing out that friendship between Germans and Arabs coupled with the German stand supporting Arab rights are a virtual fund on which relations between the FRG and Arab states can draw. It is therefore hoped that bridges between the two sides will be reinforced and their efforts combined to build a just and comprehensive peace in the Mideast and make the most of the region's potential for development and prosperity.

Al-Masri Meets Perez de Cuellar on Conference

JN100837 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] New York — Foreign Affairs Minister Tahir al-Masri met with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in New York yesterday evening in the presence of 'Abdallah Salah, Jordan's permanent UN representative, and Jean Claude Aime, the UN under secretary for special political affairs and chief of the UN secretary general's Executive Bureau.

During the meeting, the talks dealt with the latest developments on holding an international peace conference on the Middle East conflict under UN auspices, which were created during the meeting held on the sidelines of the latest Islamic summit in Kuwait between His Majesty King Husayn and Perez de Cuellar and after the issuance of the Brussels Declaration by the EC governments on 23 February — the declaration that voiced the EC states' support for holding the international conference under UN auspices and their readiness to contribute to the efforts to bring the stands of the concerned parties closer to one another in a bid to bring about the convocation of the conference.

Al-Masri briefed Perez de Cuellar on the results of Jordan's latest contacts and moves, which have sought to enlist support for holding the conference, especially the results of the latest talks His Majesty King Husayn held with Austrian and FRG officials in the two countries, as well as the results of Al-Masri's talks with the Belgian foreign relations minister, whose country is assuming the EC chairmanship prior to the issuance of the Brussels Declaration. During the meeting, Al-Masri emphasized the importance of the UN secretary general's role in paving the way for the convocation of the conference, especially in view of the importance recently attached to it by the EC. He also paid tribute to the UN secretary general's recent efforts in this regard represented by the contacts currently held by Goulding, the UN secretary general's assistant for political affairs, with the representatives of the UN Security Council member-states.

The talks also dealt with the developments in the Iraq-Iran war and the UN secretary general's efforts to end the war and find a peaceful solution to the conflict, in light of his proposal to hold a UN Security Council session on the foreign minister level to discuss the war and the progress made in the efforts to hold that session. Al-Masri reiterated to Perez de Cuellar the Jordanian Government's support for his proposal. It believes his proposal represents a high degree of attention to resolving this conflict.

King Husayn Cables Al-Asad on National Day

JN090956 Amman AL-R'AY in Arabic 9 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] Amman, (PETRA) — His Majesty King Husayn has sent the following cable to his brother His Excellency Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on the national day celebrations:

His Excellency Brother President Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic, may God preserve him.

Damascus.

I take the opportunity of the Syrian Arab Republic and fraternal Syrian people's national day celebrations to send to your excellency, in my name and on behalf of the people and Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, heartfelt congratulations and best wishes, wishing you continued health and happiness and the dear Syrian people progress and prosperity.

[Signed] Your brother, Husayn.

King Husayn Receives UNESCO Director General

JN071946 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received UNESCO Director General Amadou Mahtar M'bow, at Al-Nadwah Palace today. He thanked his majesty for Jordan's backing for UNESCO by opening two UNESCO regional offices for education, science, and technology in Amman today. Crown Prince Hasan attended the meeting.

Deputy Prime Minister Leaves for Tunisia, Morocco

JN081246 Amman Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Mr 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali left Amman today for Tunisia and Morocco for discussions with officials in both countries to coordinate phosphate marketing in world markets. Mr Al-Majali is accompanied by the director general of the Jordanian Phosphates Company.

Dudin Briefs Reporters on West Bank Plan

JN100657 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Amman — Occupied Territories Affairs Minister Marwan Dudin has reviewed the Jordanian Government's efforts to support the kinfolk's steadfastness in the occupied land. This came during Dudin's meeting with correspondents of Arab and foreign press and news media today in the presence of Information Minister Muhammad al-Khatib.

Dudin said approval has been given for projects whose implementation requires spending the 10-million-dinar sum allocated by the government for preliminary spending on the occupied territories development program for the current fiscal year. This sum was approved in the general budget and is related to the first group of projects to be implemented at a cost of approximately 4 million dinars for the West Bank. The minister pointed out that 1.5 million dinars will be spent in the Gaza Strip in the near future.

Dudin added: We await the completion of the lists of teachers appointed in the West Bank after 1967. These lists contain information about the teachers' scientific qualifications, basic salaries, and years of service so the education department directors in the occupied territories can be supplied with the amounts allocated for teachers' salaries for January and February this year via the Cairo-Amman Bank, he added.

Dudin said: We have begun to implement several practical steps to translate the development program into a practical situation. These steps divide the West Bank into eight development zones in addition to the Gaza Strip. Development committees were formed in these zones comprising, as members, representatives of all sectors, in addition to the private sector, and representatives of the Chamber of Commerce. Dudin added that a clear concept of the work of these committees has been prepared regarding the selection of priority projects to be implemented. Regarding the funding necessary to implement the program, the minister explained that during the recently held Jordanian development conference several Arab funds and financial corporations showed readiness to continue their contributions to implement development projects in the occupied territories. He said: Several European states, including France, Britain, Italy, and the FRG, in addition to the United States, have shown readiness to participate in the program. He called on the EC states to increase the flow of occupied territory products to EC countries. The minister asserted that Jordan enjoys a sound economic situation and also financial credibility in various world countries. He referred to several reports made by the World Bank, the IMF, the industrialized countries funds, and by specialized Arab funds confirming the soundness of the Jordanian management in implementing economic and social development projects. He said:— At His Majesty King Husayn's directives, the Jordanian Government will continue to do its utmost to implement development and services projects in the occupied territories.

Syrian Reportedly Mediating for French Hostages

NC091645 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1545 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] It was learned from various sources in Paris today that 'Umran Adham, a Syrian businessman residing in Paris, has been in Damascus since yesterday. It should be recalled that 'Umran Adham went to Syria in March of last year as an envoy of President FrancoisMitterrand to discuss the issue of the French hostages in Lebanon. Circles close to 'Umran Adham have affirmed his presence in Damascus without clarifying the reason for the visit. According to these circles, the Syrian businessman will return to Paris sometime after tomorrow. Diplomatic sources in the Middle East note that 'Umran Adham flew to Syria with two French figures aboard a French military aircraft. No comment about this last piece of news is as yet available from any French source in Paris.

Birri Renews Professors-Detainees Exchange Offer

NC091425 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri, Amal Movement leader, has said there is no problem in the southern suburb and that its security is in the hands of the Amal Movement, the security forces, and the Army. If necessary, the suburb would be proud to have the Syrian Army deploy there, when there is a solution for all of greater Beirut or all of Lebanon. He affirmed that stability and security exist in West Beirut and called on foreign embassy personnel and teachers to return.

Minister Birri said some information media are jeopardizing the issue of Terry Waite. He expressed optimism regarding the fate of the four kidnapped professors of Beirut University College [BUC]. He renewed his offer to exchange the Israeli airman being held by the Amal Movement for 400 Palestinian and Lebanese detainees being held in Al-Khiyam and 'Atlit, provided these professors are released.

Minister Birri received the wives of the four kidnapped professors at 1300 today, accompanied by Dr Muhammad Yakan, BUC development manager.

Prime Minister Karami Welcomes Beirut 'Security'

PM061539 Damascus AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 1 Mar 86 p 9

[Interview with Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami by *Al-Thawrah* correspondents in Beirut; date not given]

[Text] [Question] Mr Prime Minister, how would you view your call to Syria to help in ending the infighting in Beirut, and what stage have you now reached in this regard?

[Answer] Lebanon's ordeal has continued longer than it should have, and it worsened in recent times to the point of clashes among allies and among people who stand together — as has recently happened in Beirut. This infighting between brothers was terrible in terms of its cruelty and fierceness and had become a threat to West Beirut and its residents and districts. So, this fighting resulted in destruction, death, suffering, and fear and there was a need for a move to end what was taking place.

It was necessary to approach Damascus for help and increased support for Lebanon to rescue it. This is what happened, because we only had two options: either to continue this tragedy, which had reached the point of total collapse — and this was unacceptable — or to request Syria to increase its aid to ease the suffering of Beirut's residents. Therefore, I and Brothers Al-Husayni [Chamber of Deputies speaker] and Al-Huss [former prime minister] as well as Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt went to meet with the Syrian leadership headed by President Hafiz al-Asad. We explained what was taking place and requested immediate response on behalf of our citizens. We encountered complete understanding and response from the fraternal Syrian side, which understood all these tragedies and dangers in terms of the humanitarian, national, and domestic aspects. They responded as we expected, and the Syrian forces came in to establish security and to end this ugly infighting.

Hence we are amazed that some voices, which do not want stability and prosperity for this people, are questioning the constitutionality and legality of these calls, requests, and the response to them, claiming it violates Lebanon's sovereignty and legitimacy.

If anything, this proves that the fighting and its continuation were their only objective, because they imagine that what is going on serves their partition policy and further establishes this painful reality, which all Lebanese reject.

Therefore we replied to them realistically and said: How can the Syrian presence — in the north, in Al-Biqa', in many different parts of the Lebanese mountains, and even in Beirut — be legitimate at times and illegitimate at other times. This constitutes mere irresponsibility, oversensitivity, demagoguery, and posturing by people who may already have linked their destiny to the Israeli enemy. Although they realize there is still an Israeli presence on their territory, they still cooperate, collaborate, and execute their plans with it. Therefore, we will continue to adhere to our objectives; that is, to cooperate with sisterly Syria until Lebanon can restore its steadfastness and unity and liberate the south. We are cooperating with sisterly Syria in the interest of the Lebanese people's livelihood — a matter that lies within the framework of the sovereignty for which we are working.

[Question] Has the entry of Syrian forces into West Beirut achieved its set objective?

[Answer] In fact this step has a long way to go. There must be successive steps to rescue Lebanon and to end these disputes and conflicts among the people of one country.

Therefore, as we have said, we reiterate the call for a real rescue from this conflict, which has gone on for 12 years and is still continuing. This is the wish of all truthful and sincere Lebanese. It requires the restoration of the state's legitimacy and authority so that it can play its role and discharge its duty in the defense of the homeland and the citizens. This requires an agreement on solutions so that we will not make the mistakes that we made in the past during the meetings in Geneva, Lausanne, Damascus, Bikfaya, and B'abda, insofar as the agreements reached then failed to lay down the principles, slogans, and assumptions. Whenever we have reached any agreement we have always come face to face with differences and various questions. This has destroyed all hope of reaching final and agreed solutions. In order to avoid such differences and failures, matters must be detailed and agreed this time to ensure success and to rescue Lebanon. Therefore, we hope the integrity of Lebanon's territories, people, and institutions will be restored as soon as possible to deal with our situations, which have come to a state of total collapse economically and socially. This calls for the restoration of public amenities together with the allocation of their budgets, so that all departments can resume their roles and responsibilities and the state can deal with all the problems of this people and provide the necessary services for citizens. These are our wishes and, as we thank the Syrians for the sacrifices they are making in Lebanon's interest, we realize this stems from a pan-Arab, humanitarian, and national feeling and duty. This duty also derives from the axiom that Lebanon and Syria are twin countries. Whatever takes place in one country is reflected in the other. On this basis, we appreciate and value the Syrian stand toward defending the interest of the people of the one country in both Lebanon and Syria.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, how would you view the current situation in West Beirut and the point that matters have reached, albeit that Syrian forces have not been in the city a long time?

[Answer] We have, thank God, achieved the objective of establishing security and preventing attacks and aggression in all parts of West Beirut. The citizens were in agreement with the approach, which served their interests and restored security and reassurance to them. This, in itself, demonstrates the psychological, social, and security relief that has been achieved during these few days. So everyone is satisfied with these steps and is supporting them. This, in itself, is what we should care for, because it is an achievement for a popular will that emerged through this support for such successful steps.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, can we call on the evacuees to return to their territories and homes and tell them that security has been stabilized?

[Answer] Thank God, everyone today feels security has been established and that the legitimate Lebanese forces, with the backing of Syrian forces, are in control of the arena as a whole. This prompts us to say to all those who were evacuated or are in fear that they can now return to wherever they wish.

Fadlallah on Syrian Deployment, Hostages

NC091643 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1530 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] In an interview with the French paper *Le Quotidien De Paris*, Scholar Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has expressed his firm belief that the Syrian forces will not enter the southern suburb. The task of these forces is to restore peace and security, which already prevail in the southern suburb, he said. He affirmed that this peace and security will not be disrupted by any trouble between the Amal Movement and Hizballah.

Scholar Fadlallah denied all knowledge of the hostages issue. He said this matter is connected with international intelligence, rather than with any particular Lebanese party.

Mufti Qabalan Calls for Syrian Entry Into Suburb

NC091530 Paris AFP in English 1505 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Beirut, March 9 (AFP) — A Lebanese Shi'ite leader on Monday called on Syria to send its troops into mainly-Shi'ite suburbs south of Beirut where the pro-Iranian fundamentalist group Hizballah has a stronghold.

Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan said the population had regained hope in the future after the entry of Syrian troops in West Beirut on February 22, and that there had to be security for all the Lebanese throughout the land.

He said the southern suburbs "had a right to enjoy that security."

The Syrian troops have steered clear of the Shi'ite suburbs since they entered West Beirut to quell factional fighting among pro-Syrian militia.

Shaykh Qabalan said "the security plan sponsored by the Syrian president to save Beirut and its population from violent fighting has been well-received."

He said there would be "no obstacles to the deployment of Syrian troops" in the south Beirut suburbs "as soon as they decided" to move in. [passage omitted]

On Sunday the Syrians began a clean-up operation in the mainly Moslem West Beirut, tearing down portraits of Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni and scrubbing away fundamentalist graffiti.

The Hizballah weekly *Al-'Ahd* said Syrian troops were taking action against men with beards and against women wearing the veil and all-concealing Moslem fundamentalist garb, the chador.

Junblatt Interviewed on Syrian Deployment, Reform

NC091914 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Two interviews with PSP leader Walid Junblatt appeared today, one in the Italian *Il Giornale* newspaper and the other in the French paper *Le Matin*.

In his interview with *Il Giornale*, Junblatt stated: There is no chance for real peace in Lebanon as long as Amin al-Jumayyil remains in power and the Israelis stay in the south. The reforms proposed by Amin al-Jumayyil do not address our country's major problems. Unless there is reform in the Army, it will continue to be a tool for pressure and oppression.

Junblatt added: Without the introduction of radical reforms, Lebanon will remain plagued by civil war and our future will be a never ending story of fighting and cease-fires. The problem with Lebanon is that we always seek temporary rather than permanent solutions to our problems.

In his interview with *Le Matin*, Junblatt asserted: Syrian deployment in West Beirut is fine as a first step. However, if fairness is to be observed and all paramilitary activities eliminated, then other steps must follow; for example [deployment in] the southern suburb.

Responding to a question, Junblatt said: We have been denied the fruits of our victories since 1976. It is regrettable that a certain balance of power must be maintained in this war-torn country. Such a situation only prolongs the pain and agony of the Lebanese. I feel as though this will last for another 20 years.

In reply to another question, Junblatt affirmed: We are not against Syrian deployment. On the contrary, we see it as an element of stability. However, there are still certain problems which must be resolved: the hostages, the southern suburb, and Amin al-Jumayyil and his clique who are capable of destroying the Syrian plan.

When asked about political reform and the ongoing talks in this regard, Junblatt replied: Stability cannot be attained through the sheer act of granting one of Lebanon's communities a greater share of power at the expense of others. These are just attempted experiments. We have been experimenting for 12 years now.

Junblatt added: The Army is being guided by the CIA. I prefer Syria to the CIA. We are Arabs and our strategic choice is neither America nor Israel; it is Syria.

Sham'un, Al-Jumayyil Discuss Talks With Syria

NC091105 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil met with former President Camille Sham'un at 1130 today. Following the meeting, Sham'un said: President al-Jumayyil briefed me on the results of the Lebanese delegation's talks in Damascus. I have learned that a favorable climate prevailed during the talks, but no results have been achieved. The negotiations will continue, resuming at the end of the week. The negotiations will not be suspended until we achieve results.

Sham'un was asked: On the eve of the ninth round of talks, are you satisfied with the course of the Lebanese-Syrian contacts? He replied: I am somewhat satisfied with the prevailing climate. I believe it has improved. We have achieved no results, however. God willing, we will do so. If matters require a 9th, 10th, or 11th week of talks, that is all right. What is important is that contacts continue.

AFP Reports Conditions in 'Besieged' Shatila

NC080845 Paris AFP in English 0753 GMT 8 Mar 87

[By Acil Tabara]

[Text] Beirut, March 8 (AFP) — Rats have started attacking children in the Palestinian refugee camp besieged for the last 104 days in the southern Beirut suburb of Shatila by Shi'ite militiamen of the Amal Movement.

Inhabitants reached by telephone said that since they have burned up all their candles there is no light to keep away rats from children in dark shelters because of the exploding shells.

Some families preferred the risk of being hit by a shell to the certainty of being bitten by rats, a Palestinian woman official said, so they were camping in ruins under the heavy rain that has fallen for a week.

One family was huddling under a parasol in their wrecked house after a shell blew off its roof.

After 10 days since the last food deliveries were made by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), some people are now fainting from hunger and have been put on drip feeds, the official said.

A doctor added that wounds were not healing because the victims were so weak from hunger and medicines were lacking. Pregnant women were suffering spontaneous abortions, he said.

Mothers were burning their furniture as cooking fuel, another inhabitant said.

Desperate women marched to the camp entrance Saturday morning to demand that the Syrian Army which entered Beirut last month to restore order between feuding Moslem factions impose a ceasefire on the pro-Syrian Amal so that people could go out to get food.

Shellfire broke up that protest demonstration, but the women plan another Monday.

Syrian soldiers have been deployed just a few hundred meters (yards) from Shatila camp since they occupied West Beirut on February 22.

Since then, the camp has been revictualled twice. On February 27, 16 tons of flour and four tons of milk were brought in by UNRWA, but that food was used up in a few days.

Two small trucks of food were let in two days later but their contents were only distributed to members of two pro-Syrian Palestinian groups.

At Burj al-Barajinah camp farther south, women have been allowed to go out for food since February 18. But Amal militiamen have killed 11 of them and wounded 32, Palestinian organizations said.

One woman was shot dead Saturday for refusing to buy Amal's weekly newspaper at the camp gate, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine said.

UNIFIL Commander on Israeli Actions in South

NC061903 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] A UN source has told an NNA correspondent in the Tyre area that recent Israeli actions against the villages of Haddathah, Al-Tiri, Rshaf, Bayt Yahun, and Bra'shit were aimed at evicting the inhabitants and placing them in a region isolated from the liberated areas — a matter which creates enormous problems for UNIFIL. The Israeli forces have closed roads linking villages and planted mines on them.

In an interview, UNIFIL Commander General Gustav Haegglund was asked about the Israeli enemy army's closure of the Al-Tiri-Haddathah Road, which is often used by UNIFIL. He said: This is one of our biggest problems, especially because this road has been mined, and we are doing what we can to resolve this problem. He said he sent his deputy to resolve this problem on site this morning, especially because this problem is with the Israelis and not with the so-called South Lebanese Army.

Asked about the possibility of using force to reopen the road, General Haegglund said: We will do what we can to reopen it, because it is the only road linking the liberated areas and we do not want these areas isolated from UNIFIL areas.

Asked about the possibility of sending a Lebanese Army unit to help UNIFIL, General Haegglund said: We are in constant touch with the Lebanese authorities to work out an integrated plan with the Lebanese Army, so that it and our forces can control the south.

Meanwhile, UNIFIL this morning sent an engineering team to remove the mines planted by the Israeli occupation forces on the Al-Haddathah-Al-Tiri Road. While the team, which is commander by UNIFIL Deputy Commander General (Michel Datin), was carrying out its duty, a mortar round was fired at it from a position held by agent Lahd's militia. The round fell only meters from the engineering team, but no one was hurt. (Datin) ordered the team to continue looking for mines.

UNIFIL Opens Road in South

NC071813 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] A UNIFIL force, led by UNIFIL Deputy Commander General (Michel Ceaser), successfully opened the main road to Haddathah and Al-Tiri this evening after a French engineering unit removed mines and obstacles planted by the occupation forces 2 days ago.

UNIFIL has sent additional forces to the Al-Tiri and Haddathah villages to strengthen the Irish and Nepalese units stationed there. A mechanized Ghanaian force has also been sent to these villages to provide support to UNIFIL and the local populace.

Ba'th Party Member Assassinated in Sidon

NC091358 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Nazih al-Darazi was buried in Sidon today. Sidon Deputy Dr Nazih al-Bizri, the Ba'th party organization leadership, Ba'th forces in Sidon, and representatives of some Palestinian organizations attended the funeral.

The Ba'th party organization announced the death of Al-Darazi today as one of its martyrs. It said Israeli agents perpetrated the crime. Al-Darazi was assassinated last night at his home in Mahallat Al-Qinnayah in Sidon by two unidentified gunmen carrying pistols equipped with silencers.

Arab League's Ibrahimi Arrives for Talks

NC090806 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Lakhdan Ibrahimi, Arab League assistant secretary general, arrived in Beirut yesterday. He will meet today with Prime Minister Rashid Karami and Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction and Amal leader. Sources said discussions during these two meetings will center on the issue of the camps and radical means of dealing with the issue. Ibrahimi will visit Damascus after leaving Beirut.

Meets With Karami, Birri

NC091354 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami; Lakhdar Ibrahimi, Arab League assistant secretary general; and Shaykh 'Abd al-Ghani al-Ashi, secretary general of the Federation of the Arab Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; today discussed conditions in the Palestinian camps and means of stopping the war that has continued for 4 months.

Following the meeting, Ibrahimi said: We had the honor of meeting with Prime Minister Rashid Karami and Shaykh al-Ashi on behalf of the Arab League committee that is trying to help solve the camp problems. We discussed this issue with his excellency, the prime minister. As we expected, we sense he is completely ready to help resolve the remaining issues. We have taken a step, and things are now calmer. God willing, more steps will be taken later.

Asked about Arab League efforts regarding the camps war, Ibrahimi said: We are now seeking to collect Arab aid for Beirut, for the Palestinians and Lebanese who have been harmed by the war. He expressed hope for an end to the camps war.

Ibrahimi then visited Nabih Birri, minister of state for reconstruction and the south. After the meeting, Ibrahimi said our task is within the framework of solving the camps' problems. We discussed this issue with Minister Birri and found him ready to cooperate.

Departs for Damascus

LD091747 Algiers APS in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Beirut, 9 Mar — The assistant secretary general of the Arab League Lakhdar Ibrahimi held talks today in Beirut with Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami and the Amal Movement Chairman Nabih Birri.

Mr Ibrahimi's talks with Messrs Karami and Birri dealt with the issue of the Palestinian camps' war in Lebanon and the ways appropriate to put an end to this war through the study of its reasons and results.

Mr Ibrahimi left Beirut this afternoon for Damascus. [passage omitted]

Interior Minister Meets With Iranian Counterpart

JN071633 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Damascus, 7 Mar (SANA) — Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash today received Iranian Interior Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Kabbar Mohtashemi, who is currently visiting Damascus. They discussed bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern. Ghabbash affirmed Syria's principled stand under President Hafiz al-Asad on all the imperialist-Zionist schemes against the Arab nation. He noted the great developments witnessed by Syria in the various social, economic, and political fields under the 8 March revolution, especially following the blessed Corrective Movement.

For his part, Mohtashemi expressed his admiration and appreciation for Syria's wise policy under President Hafiz al-Asad in confronting the various forms of colonialism and Zionist hegemony. He also hailed the obvious progress that has taken place in Syria at all levels and in all fields.

Al-Asad Receives Iranian Minister

JN081205 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received Iranian Interior Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi at 1300 today. Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash and the Iranian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting.

Al-Shar' Receives Lebanese Education Minister

JN072055 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2015 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Lebanese Education Minister Salim al-Huss this evening. The talks dealt with the current situation in the Lebanese arena.

Cabinet Approves Draft 1987 General Budget Law

JN072010 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] The cabinet met today under Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, who affirmed the historic importance of the glorious 8 March revolution initiated by the Ba'th Party, which placed Syria on the path of effective pan-Arab struggle and confrontation of the Zionist challenge and imperialist conspiracies, especially following the Corrective Movement. Under President Hafiz al-Asad, this country has taken a major leap in establishing the economic foundation, reinforcing the bases of national industry, effectively taking a major leap in the field of agriculture and establishing a network of services covering all fields. Dr Al-Kasm said: The most important thing we can promise our great leader President Hafiz al-Asad is to work with the utmost productivity and determination to achieve planned objectives and promise to do our utmost to serve this militant andsacrificing people.

The ministers also spoke about the historic importance of the 8 March revolution. Its 24th anniversary emphasizes Syria's extensive economic and social achievements, especially following the glorious Corrective Movement. Syria, under the great Arab leader Hafiz al-Asad, has managed to double its economic and social development and has pursued an extensive and broad development course. Syria has also become the axis of pan-Arab struggle, a source of support for the Arab masses, and a forward position against Israel, its expansionist schemes, imperialism, and its suspect plans. The ministers affirmed that Syria today is the Arab nation's hope in view of its strength and principled, firm course in defending the Arab cause throughout the Arab world. They also affirmed that Syria, people and party, will continue under President Hafiz al-Asad to build its internal strength and reinforce the positions of steadfastness and confrontation against Zionism and imperialism.

The cabinet later reviewed aspects of the draft 1987 general budget law, both in terms of current expenditures and development, which was studied in accordance with a comprehensive evaluation of previous budgets and an analysis of the current situation. This draft law is aimed at continuing to increase local imports and limiting all unfeasible expenditures. The cabinet also discussed the study on the labor force in light of new scientific principles that would lead to a revision of the distribution of the labor force in the various sectors and the attainment of maximum benefit from the productivity of workers in the country.

After the dicussion, the cabinet approved the draft 1987 general budget law. It also agreed to entrust the relevant committee with studying the situation of the labor force in the country in accordance with new scientific principles to be discussed at the next meeting.

Civilians, Military To Receive Salary Increase

JN071620 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] The president of the Republic has submitted a draft law to the People's Assembly to raise the salaries and wages of civilian and military employees in the ministries, public departments and corporations, public sector companies and establishments, municipalities, local administration units, and other public sector sides according to the following rates: 35 percent on the first 800 Syrian pounds of the monthly salary or wage; 25 percent on the next 400 Syrian pounds of the monthly salary or wage; 15 percent on the next 400 Syrian pounds of the monthly salary or wage; 10 percent of the remaining amounts that exceed this from the monthly salary or wage.

His excellency also submitted another draft law to increase the pensions of civilian, military, and mujahidin pensioners according to the following rates: 20 percent on the first 400 Syrian pounds of the salary; 15 percent on the second 500 pounds of the salary; and 10 percent on the amounts that exceed that salary.

Continuing Reportage on Reaction to Pollard Case

Companies Lose U.S. Bids

TA091254 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Israeli companies that tried to win bids in the U.S. defense establishment were rejected because of the disclosures in the Pollard affair. This was disclosed by Prof Edward (Lutwag), who serves as an adviser to the Pentagon and to Israeli companies in the United States. Reference is to an Israeli company that competed in a bid by the State Department in Washington in the sphere of embassy security. Another company competed in a bid in the sphere of U.S. Army training. Officially, no reason was given for the removal of the Israeli companies from the bids; however, our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer has learned that a reason that was mentioned was these companies pose a security risk to the United States.

Knesset Committee Meets

TA091543 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1506 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Report from the Knesset by Yinon Shenkar]

[Text] At today's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee meeting, the prime minister presented the Pollard affair as a mishap in the fabric of Israeli-U.S. relations. Pollard's espionage, according to Shamir, was carried out in contravention of cabinet instructions, but this mishap could be overcome if the mounting hysteria in Israeli is stemmed and does not reach the United States. According to Shamir, during his visit to the United States, he never heard any questions from either the Administration or Congress on Pollard and emphasized that the explanations he provided were received there without any opposition or criticism. We cooperated with the United States in the investigation of the affair and have gone as far as we can permit ourselves. The cooperation with the United States in investigating the Pollard affair is unprecedented in relations between countries, the prime minister said this morning, and emphasized that the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee's subcommittee on secret services will be fully briefed and be given every explanation, so he sees himself as free to avoid such a report to the committee plenum.

This immediately aroused criticism. Committee Chairman Abba Eban said: I protest the standard and style employed by the prime minister. It is incumbent upon us to check the government and supervise it, and its functioning in the Pollard affair was most unfortunate.

Mr Eban announced openly — and this is actually the headline that today's session made — that the secret services subcommittee will function as a parliamentary commission of inquiry to probe the Pollard affair as part of its duty to supervise cabinet activities. We reserve the right to summon everyone involved, Mr Eban told the prime minister.

Knesset Member [MK] El'azar Granot believes an opposition member should be sitting on the subcommittee sessions, and a decision to this effect will indeed be made shortly. MK Eliyahu Ben-Elisar maintains that very serious damage was caused to Israel by the Pollard affair. MK Yosi Sarid of the Citizens Rights Movement said: Shamir did not know anything about the Shin Bet affair, the Sabra and Shatila affair, or the Iranian affair. This is a rather impressive degree of ignorance for someone who is prime minister. Paraphrasing a famous Alfred Hitchcock movie, Sarid said: Yitzhaq Shamir is an incredible prime minister, about whom a movie could be made and entitled: The Man Who Did Not Know Too Much. He called for the establishment of a commission of inquiry to bring Israel's truth to light. MK Refa'el Eytan claims the uproar in the United States will not subside. We are witnessing only the beginning of a chain reaction. MK Simcha Dinitz seconded him and attacked Deputy Minister Roni Milo, who argued that if there is anyone who should worry about a commission of inquiry on the matter, it is Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir contended that the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee's subcommittee is the tool to obtain information on the affair and, as we said, urged the MK's to exercise restraint in reaction to and patience in reaching conclusions about the case. He claimed that reaction in the United States to the affair is not half as scathing as here in Israel, which is prone to self-destruction. As for the investigation, Shamir said: I am not afraid of an investigation, nor should I be. It is the state that should be concerned. As to Roni Milo's remarks, Mr Shamir agreed that his statements about Peres should not have been uttered. I object to such a style, but let us not forget that there were times in which harsh remarks about me were allowed to pass with no one protesting them.

Finally, let us add one sentence about the coalition executive session today: It supports MK Eban's initiative that an investigation be held at the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee's subcommittee on the Pollard affair, with the participation of an opposition representative.

Sharon: No Connection

TA091559 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Report from the north by Menahem Horowitz]

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon has denied various reports that he was involved in the Pollard affair:

[Begin Sharon recording] I have no connection to the affair. Without commenting on the affair itself, which I will do at the cabinet, this affair took place 18 months after I retired to my farm and was working on the tractor as a result of the Kahan Commission's report. So, all the attempts to link my name to the affair are totally unfounded, and I would lump them with what I must to my regret term a fabric of slander that exists in Israel in various spheres. I simply had nothing to do with this case. [end recording]

Minister Sharon said he believes the Pollard affair should be debated by closed forums because it has to do with the security of many people. Minister Sharon, who talked to reporters in the course of a ceremony inaugurating the Deganya silicon plant, noted the nature of the ties between Israel and the United States following the Pollard affair:

[Begin Sharon recording] First, it is important that we remember that although the United States is our greatest friend, and although I could possibly describe Israel as the most loyal and courageous friend of the United States, nevertheless, and despite these traditional ties — which have been maintained for many years, contrary to what people there are trying to allege — Israel has not been receiving all the information it requires from the United States. Definitely not. If it does receive some information, it is merely a minute fraction of what it needs, while it simultaneously gives a lot. If we try to evaluate what we have submitted versus what we have received over the years, we have given infinitely more in far more important spheres than we received. [end recording]

Peres on U.S. Interests

TA091618 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1520 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres has refused to divulge his personal opinion on a commission of inquiry to investigate the Pollard affair, saying: I will express my opinion on the matter at the Inner Cabinet forum. At the same time, he said the United States may investigate the affair. Moreover, it has the right to do so. We have informed the United States, he said, that all the lessons will be drawn regarding everyone involved in the affair, and the United States has the right to check that this is indeed going to happen.

[Begin Peres recording] We may also have an argument with the United States, as it may believe we must take more drastic measures, while we may believe the steps we have taken are sufficient. However, there is no evidence here of U.S. interest or interference in something which is none of its business. We have not objected to U.S. investigators questioning Avi'em Sela', but on Israeli soil, as is the common practice in such cases. [end recording]

Peres emphasized once more that the political echelon was unaware of what was taking place, adding that espionage in the United States is in complete contradiction of the government's policy. As for Deputy Minister Roni Milo's remarks that it would be Peres who would stand to lose should a commission of inquiry probe the matter, Peres replied:

[Begin Peres recording] How would Roni Milo know what we are talking about? Besides, we all know he lacks any sense of responsibility. [end recording]

Security Subcommittee To Meet

TA091629 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1558 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin will give the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee's subcommittee on secret services a detailed report on the Pollard affair on Thursday. The subcommittee, as Knesset Member [MK] Abba Eban announced this evening, will not officially constitute a parliamentary commission of inquiry, but it will definitely serve as an investigatory committee that will summon everyone involved in the affair to appear before it and give testimony.

As an extraordinary step, two opposition representatives have been added to the subcommittee: Refa'el Eytan and El'azar Granot. The Alignment Faction's whip Rafi Edri said this evening: The Pollard affair will be worse than the Lavon affair.

Top IDF Echelon 'Furious'

TA092027 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] The top IDF echelon is furious with reports that the chief of staff and the commander of the Air Force forced the defense minister to promote Colonel Sela' as commander of the Tel Nof Air Force Base. Senior officers maintain that if Minister Rabin did not wish to promote Col Sela', he could still have stopped it 2 days before the planned [promotion] ceremony despite the pressure applied to him by Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi, Air Force Commander Major General 'Amos Lapidot, and Air Force officers.

Our army affairs correspondent Moshe Shlonsky reports that the senior officers claim that the reports intended to present the defense minister's version do not only severely harm the position of the chief of staff, but the IDF as a whole.

'Freeze' in U.S. Contacts

TA100520 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] There is a freeze in the political contacts between Israel and the United States. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that since the publication of the verdict in Pollard's case, there has been no high-level political contact whatsoever between representatives of the Israeli Government and U.S. Administration officials.

In a document he sent to the Pentagon, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin states that Avi'em Sela's role in the espionage case was quite marginal.

Shamir on Damage to Ties

TA100555 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Meron Tzur "last night"; place not given — recorded]

[Text][Tzur] Mr Prime Minister, what damage has been inflicted on Israeli-U.S. relations in the wake of the Pollard affair, and how do you plan to mend what you have termed a mishap, and to cure the wounds in this relationship?

[Shamir] This mishap did not happen just now but rather 15 months ago. The process of healing and recovery has been going on since then. Recently, in the wake of the verdict, there has been a great fuss, particularly in Israel. It seems to me those who are exaggerating and playing up the matter are hindering this process of recovery. I would ask all those commentators and critics — this is also painful to me — not to exaggerate or make too much of the matter. I hope the depth of relations between the United States and Israel and the very genuine friendship between us will help us overcome this mishap.

[Tzur] Mr Shamir, Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Chairman Knesset Member [MK] Abba Eban intends to summon all those involved in the affair to appear before the committee. Will you appear before the committee, and what will you say to it?

[Shamir] This is a very big exaggeration. He cannot summon all those involved to appear before the committee; there is no such thing in Israel. The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee has a subcomittee that will receive a briefing.

[Tzur] Mr Shamir, in view of the great anger in the United States and claims that Israel betrayed the United States in the Pollard affair, is there really no room to reconsider the establishment of a commission of inquiry or the appointments of Rafi Eytan and Colonel Avi'em Sela'?

[Shamir] All the talk about betrayal and so forth are part of the exaggerations I was talking about. We must explain very cautiously and persistently, and we must soothe tempers and heal. There is not need for a commission of inquiry because the problem is not one of investigating what happened. The people who have to know what happened for the most part already know, and those who do not have to know should continue not knowing.

[Tzur] Mr Shamir, U.S. Administration officials have said Israeli-U.S. relations have already been hurt in terms of tenders offered by the U.S. Administration and in terms of access to commercial contacts.

[Shamir] You are very persistent, and you are exaggerating.

[Tzur] I am quoting U.S. sources.

[Shamir] No, you are not. That was not said by Administration officials, but rather by a man who is an observer. There is no need to exaggerate. Our relations, contacts, and cooperation are continuing at this very time. I am not saying this affair did not harm anything or anybody, but there is no need to make a fuss and to go on with this self-flagellation.

Shamir on Subcommittee

TA100905 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0852 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said there is no reason why a subcommittee of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee should not hear all the facts regarding the Pollard affair. According to him, everything that needs to be done has been and will continue to be done by the state's authorized bodies.

Replying to a question by our correspondent in Haifa, Qobi Mandel, the prime minister said Israel is primarily concerned about its relations with the United States. Israel, Shamir said, is not connected with the Pollards because Israel did not hire Pollard or assign him any espionage missions. The situation of the Pollard family is a moral problem, but not one that should be dealt with by the State of Israel.

No Sela' Resignation Request

TA101042 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 10 Mar 87 pp 1, 10

[Report by military correspondent Tzvi Alush]

[Excerpt] The U.S. Government or its authorized representatives have not officially asked Israel to cancel the appointment of Colonel Avi'em Sela' as commander of the Tel Nof airbase.

Israeli security sources emphasized that this is why nobody in the defense establishment or the IDF plans to ask Col Sela' to quit his job.

Nevertheless, it seems that many officials in the defense establishment, and perhaps also in the IDF's top echelon, would be "relieved" if Sela' were to take the initiative and quit of his own volition. Some officials also consider Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's remarks that Sela' made a very big sacrifice in that he will not be commander of the Air Force in the future as a kind of subtle and delicate hint to the talented officer that his promotion will be limited and very problematic.

Officers who know Col Sela' personally voiced their belief that there is no chance that he might make such a move and quit of his own will, both because of his personality and because he believes in the importance and justness of his deeds. [passage omitted]

Committee To Prepare Official Version on Iran

TA091227 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 9 Mar 87 p 1

[Report by military correspondent Yosef Walter]

[Text] Major General (reserves) Refa'el Vardi was recently appointed by the prime ministers forum — Peres, Shamir, Rabin — to gather all the material on the arms sales to Iran. The material will be submitted to an interministerial committee that will formulate an official version of the affair to be passed on to the United States.

This will be the first time Israel will submit a written document to the Americans containing its official version. To date, only verbal reports and explanations have been submitted to the United States. The committee is comprised of Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein; Brigadier General 'Azri'el Nevo, the prime minister's military secretary; and Moshe Kochanovsky, the Defense Ministry's legal adviser.

The forum has empowered Gen Vardi to collect all the documents and testimony connected to the Iran affair from the office of 'Amiram Nir, the prime minister's antiterrorism adviser; from the Foreign and Defense Ministries; and from the IDF. Once the material has been collected, a report will be presented to the government on the chain of events and the roles the various people played in the affair.

Approximately 2 weeks ago, Elyaqim Rubinstein met with U.S. Administration officials and discussed the answers Washington is seeking from Israel on its part in the affair.

Senior sources made it clear that reference is not to an investigating committee; nevertheless, the political and defense echelons consider the establishment of the committee a substitute for an inquiry commission because the material will provide the government with a broad overview of the role the various elements including 'Amiram Nir, played in the affair.

As is recalled, Ya'aqov Nimrodi demanded 'Amiram Nir be dismissed in the wake of the Tower Commission's findings. Nimrodi, David Kimche, and Al Schwimmer even demanded an inquiry commission be set up to investigate the affair.

Senior sources believe that in light of the Pollard affair and its effects on U.S.-Israeli relations, it is now even more important to investigate the Iran affair than in the past.

Rabin 'On Verge' of Canceling Lavi Project

TA091111 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 9 Mar 87 p 1

[Report by military correspondent Avi Bnayahu]

[Text] Sources close to the *Lavi* project believe that the defense establishment will decide within 2 weeks to recommend to the Inner Cabinet that the project be canceled.

Within the next few days the chief of staff will present a forum headed by the defense minister with the alternative proposal which the IDF has prepared and which addresses the issue of the $400 million — the cost of canceling the project and contracts with the companies in Israel and abroad.

The sources say that according to an agreement with Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] the defense establishment must give notice of the cancellation of the project 6 months in advance so IAI can reorganize its manpower. With the examination of the alternatives proposed by Zakheim on behalf of the Pentagon at an end, and now that the IDF has submitted its alternative to the *Lavi*, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin is on the verge of canceling the project.

Also contributing to this were opinions within the IDF and the defense establishment as well as the views of many elements in Israel and abroad. Senior sources believe an Israeli decision to withdraw from the *Lavi* project at this time will contribute to improving relations between the U.S. Administration and the State of Israel.

Defense Ranks 'Freeze' Debate

TA101029 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Mar 87 p 1

[Report by Re'uven Pedatzur]

[Text] The defense establishment has decided, surprisingly, to freeze deliberations on the future of the *Lavi* project and plans to reorganize the IDF's Quartermaster Branch.

The General Staff was briefed about the decision to freeze the deliberations in its weekly session yesterday. It seems that, among other things, the decision stems from the desire to wait until Major General Dan Shomron assumes his post as chief of staff.

Nevertheless, the defense establishment's decision is rather surprising because the debate on the IDF's alternative to the *Lavi* had been scheduled for this Thursday. This debate had already been postponed in the past at the decision of the defense minister to allow the chief of staff to present the plan drawn up by the IDF in a previous discussion on the *Lavi*. This deferral of a decision on the *Lavi* project means that over $1 million will continue to be allocated to the project daily, as long as work continues.

Military sources were surprised by the defense minister's decision to postpone the debate. According to them. [incomplete sentence as published]

Herut Reaches Compromise Agreement on Elections

TA081952 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Herut Party ministers have decided that there will be no contest over the post of party chairman in the party convention, and that no party member can be a candidate for more than one position. In the next session of the party convention on 1 April there will be a vote over the posts of acting party chairman, central committee chairman, and secretariat chairman. The new central committee also will be elected. The merger agreement with the Liberal Party is also expected to be approved.

Our correspondent Elimelekh Ram assesses that if there are no surprises Yitzhaq Shamir will be elected party chairman; David Levi will be elected acting chairman. Minister Ari'el Sharon will be elected central committee chairman and Minister Moshe Arens will receive the post of Herut secretariat chairman. The compromise agreement was proposed by Minister Moshe Qatzav. The session will last for one day only.

Disturbances in Golan Village of Buq'ata Cited

TA081248 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1240 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] There were disturbances in the village of Buq'ata in the northern Golan Heights. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz reports that hundreds of students have been demonstrating in the center of the village in the last few hours. They threw stones at policemen and hoisted Syrian flags. Five policemen were injured, some of them were taken to the Magen David Adom clinic in Qiryat Shemona.

The Druze on the Golan are today marking the 24th anniversary of the rise of the Ba'th Party to power in Syria. On this occasion, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad will deliver a political speech this evening which will concentrate on the Lebanese problem.

9 Police, 1 Woman Injured

TA081734 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Galilee District police have detained five residents from the Druze village of Buq'ata in the northern Golan Heights. They are suspected of rioting for nationalist purposes.

Nine policemen and a local woman were injured during the riots.Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reports the policemen were injured while trying to disperse hundreds of demonstrators who surrounded them and started beating them up. The policemen retaliated with shots and tear gas.

Druze Woman Dies

TA100609 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] The Druze woman injured by police gunfire during Sunday's disturbances in the Golan Heights village of Buq'ata died last night in Haifa's Rambam Hospital. Rahil Farhad was critically hurt when police tried to disperse a demonstration. She was 55 years old.

Israel Radio's reporter in the north says tension in northern Golan Heights villages is still high and police fear there will be violent reactions to the death. A reinforced police presence remains in the area. A police officer has been appointed to investigate Sunday's incident.

Delegates Arrive for OAU Bureau Meeting in Cairo

OAU Secretary General Arrives

NC081736 Cairo MENA in English 1635 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, March 8 (MENA) — Ide Oumarou, secretary general of the Organization of African Unity, OAU, arrived here today from Addis Ababa to attend meetings of the bureau of the OAU due to be held in Cairo on Wednesday.

The meeting will review work of the organization during the past period, besides the contacts President Denis Sassou Nguesso of Congo, chairman of the OAU, had on the situation in South Africa, the problem of Chad, and the current economic situation in Africa.

The meeting will also center on the issues due to be discussed by the coming African summit due to be held in July in Addis Ababa.

Ide Oumarou was welcomed upon arrival by state minister for foreign affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali.

PLO Adviser Arrives

NC081803 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1610 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 8 Mar (MENA) — Sulayman al-Hirafi, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's adviser for African affairs, arrived in Cairo this afternoon. In an arrival statement, the PLO official declared that he will convey a message from Yasir 'Arafat to the African leaders [in Cairo to attend the OAU meetings] in which he expresses his thanks for the support they have given to the Palestinian issue, a problem that has always received their utmost attention. Al-Hirafi also announced he will brief the African leaders on the latest developments taking place in the Middle East in general and with regard to the Palestinian issue in particular, including the explosive situation in Lebanon's Palestinian camps.

Responding to a question about the PLO's stand on the proposed international conference, Al-Hirafi noted the PLO has always voiced its willingness to attend such a conference provided that representatives from the UN Security Council's five member-states were also in attendance and that the conference was held under UN auspices.

Sierra Leone Minister Arrives

NC082152 Cairo MENA in English 2120 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, March 8 (MENA) — Sierra Leone Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Koroma arrived here tonight to take part in the preparatory meetings of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Bureau meeting, scheduled here on Wednesday.

Congolese President Arrives

NC081616 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1450 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 8 Mar (MENA) — Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso arrived in Cairo today on a 3-day visit to Egypt. He will attend the meetings of the OAU Bureau [established during the OAU's 22d session], which are scheduled to open in Cairo on Wednesday [11 March]. Sassou-Nguesso is chairman of the current OAU session.

Mubarak Honors Congo Leader

NC082112 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1902 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Speech by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak at a dinner banquet held in honor of visiting Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso in Al-Qubbah Palace in Cairo on 8 March — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. My brother and dear friend, President Denis Sassou-Nguessou; Madame Sassou-Nguessou; ladies and gentlemen:

It is with immense satisfaction and amity that I welcome you here. Our people take pride in their African heritage and values, and in the noble principles that have given meaning to our lives.

We have shared a long march with our brother African nations. Together we have fought many battles, under unfavorable circumstances. This is true regarding the fight against imperialism, exploitation, and foreign hegemony, and is equally true regarding reconstruction efforts, economic and social development, and the attempt to assimilate the contemporary scientific and technological revolution and adapt it to our requirements. Our peoples have been seeking social justice while simultaneously balancing the need to remain open to the outside world against the need to preserve their original cultures and their distinctive identities.

We have always been aware of the comradeship of our honest and brave brothers in Africa and of their solidarity in matters of principles and justice. The Africans have set an example of true solidarity despite geographical boundaries and the diversity of political ideologies, and they have never forgotten the common objectives we are all committed to pursue.

We see in you, dear brother, a living example of these high values and a true embodiment of this true African spirit. This has been evident from your outstanding performance as OAU chairman and from your firm defense of common African interests against other international alliances, and also within the continent itself. You have tirelessly sought to diminish differences of opinion among Africans and to resolve their disputes by peaceful means. You have made tremendous efforts to achieve settlements in Chad, the Western Sahara, and the Horn of Africa, and to rally support for the strugglers defending their legitimate right to liberate every inch of blessed African soil, the land of heroes and martyrs.

I am privileged, dear friend, to have met you on three previous occasions. The first was during your working visit to our country in November 1984, followed by two meetings in Addis Ababa in 1985 and 1986, during the OAU summits. These meetings led me to greatly appreciate your friendship and respect your selfless struggle for African and humane causes. I was impressed by the way you place supreme African interests above all considerations.

Therefore, we seek to strengthen the cooperation between our two countries and peoples in various walks of life. We also wish to promote creative exchanges in the socioeconomic domain. This would undoubtedly serve our mutual interests and intensify our participation in efforts to formulate the basis for cohesion among the various sisterly African states. There is no doubt the talks we will hold during this visit will produce tangible and practical results in this regard. Hence, we devote a major part of our attention to honoring our pledge to support the movement of our brothers in the southern regions of the continent who are attempting to confront racial discrimination and inhumane practices perpetrated by the racist minority in Pretoria.

May I take this opportunity to express our appreciation to you for the initiative you proposed during the nonaligned summit in Harare in September 1986 regarding the establishment of a special fund to support South Africa's struggle against racism and apartheid.

Dear brothers and friends, we are extremely proud to meet with you in an atmosphere imbued with sincerity. Credit for the convocation of this meeting goes to President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, who accepted the invitation we offered to him and to his wife to visit Egypt before the OAU Bureau session opened. Please allow me to ask you to stand in honor of our brother and dear friend, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, and his wife. Greetings to the fraternal Congolese people and to all the Congo's sons now present here. Greetings to the strong friendship that links our countries and people. May God grant us success. May peace and God's blessings be with you. [applause]

Congolese President Replies

NC082126 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1911 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Report on speech by Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso at a dinner banquet hosted in his honor by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak at Al-Qubbah Palace in Cairo on 8 March]

[Text] The Congolese president expressed pleasure at the warm fraternal welcome accorded him in Egypt. In his speech, he praised President Muhammad Husni Mubarak as a great African leader and the head of a state who has worked to maintain strong relations with the Congo on the basis of mutual confidence and noble values, which also constitute the bases of the OAU's work. The Congolese president also praised Egypt's role in promoting solidarity with Congo since 1964, and in building a unified, independent Africa.

The Congolese president praised the development of relations between Egypt and the Congo. He affirmed he will resume dialogue with President Mubarak to search for a formula to boost cooperation between the two countries, particularly in trade, technical assistance, training, and agriculture. The promotion of economic development in the two countries, will also be discussed, he said.

Egyptian-Congolese Talks Held

NC091548 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held private talks with Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso in Cairo this morning. Egyptian and Congolese delegations joined them later for further discussions.

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said the two presidents discussed bilateral relations, with special emphasis on ways to develop economic cooperation for the benefit of both nations. The two presidents also reviewed African issues, particularly the situation in South Africa, Namibia, Chad, and the Horn of Africa, and the joint efforts exerted by Egypt and the Congo through the OAU.

Earlier in the day, the Egyptian and Congolese delegations met to discuss bilateral ties. They reviewed trade relations and explored ways of boosting commercial activity between the two countries. They also considered the particular commodities in which trade should be promoted.

The two delegations agreed that experts will draft a trade agreement to be signed during the current visit to Egypt of the Congolese president. They also discussed cooperation in education, technical training, trade, culture, economy, and information. The prospect of establishing joint agricultural ventures was also discussed.

The information minister concluded by noting that the Congolese information minister will visit Egypt to discuss signing an information protocol, with the aim of enhancing bilateral cooperation in this field.

ANC Secretary Arrives

NC092218 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2100 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 9 Mar (MENA) — ANC Secretary Johnstone Maketini arrived in Cairo this evening on a visit to Egypt scheduled to last several days. During this visit, which comes in response to an invitation from Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, he will attend the mini-African summit conference as an observer.

Upon his arrival, Maketini said he has brought a verbal message for President Husni Mubarak from ANC President Oliver Tambo on the current situation in South Africa and the ANC's efforts to deal with it.

Algerian Delegation Arrives

NC092205 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2105 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 9 Mar (MENA) — Mohamed Rouighi, member of the Algerian National Liberation Front Central Committee and minister of hydraulics, environment, and forests, arrived in Cairo this evening. He will represent his country at the meetings to be held by members of the bureau established at the 22d African summit, which are scheduled to begin on Wednesday. [passage omitted]

Mubarak Hosts Dinner

NC092246 Cairo MENA in English 2140 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, March 9 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received tonight President Hassan Gouled of Djibouti, Presidents Denis Sassou-Nguesso of Congo and OAU Secretary-General Ide Oumarou.

The president gave a special dinner in honour of the three leaders.

Attending the dinner were Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali.

LIBYA

Aircraft Crew Being Tortured by Egyptians

LD071200 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1140 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 Mar JANA — The Egyptian regime is still holding the Libyan aircraft and its crew. The crew of the aircraft are currently being subjected to the most vile forms of torture at the hands of the Egyptian military intelligence. The condition of the aircraft's crew is deteriorating from bad to worse. The aircraft's crew have been on a hunger strike since yesterday.

Envoy in Paris Gives Message to French Government

LD091731 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1710 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Tripoli, 9 Mar (JANA) — JANA has learned that Brother Hamid al-Hudhayri, secretary of the Arab Libyan People's Bureau in Paris has delivered a message from the Revolutionary Command in the Great Jamahiriyah to the French Government.

Foreign Liaison Bureau on Lange Statement

LD092123 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Excerpt] New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange made a statement which said there is a danger stemming from establishing political and cultural relations between the countries of the Pacific or Indian Oceans with the Jamahiriyah.

In reply to this statement, a source at the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison stressed the following:

First: The danger claimed by the New Zealand prime minister cannot stem from the Great Jamahiriyah, as its role is establishing peaceful cooperation relations based on equality and respect between the peoples of earth, and resisting all forms of hegemony and pressure practiced by the colonialist forces, which are hostile to the independence of the struggling peoples.

Second: The actual danger threatening the security and independence of the western Indian Ocean countries stems, in fact, from France, which occupies the Kanak people in New Caledonia, and the United States, which makes the waters of the Indian Ocean into a theater for maneuvers and nuclear tests threatening the peoples of this region,

Third: The establishment of relations between the Great Jamahiriyah and the countries of the region is a decision of sovereignty, which does not depend on the will of New Zealand or any other country. The Kanak people know who their friends are and who their enemies and executioners are. The Republic of Vanuatu, when it declared its decision to establish political relations and cooperation with the Great Jamahiriyah, did not ask for New Zealand's permission to adopt such a decision.

Fourth: The prime minister of New Zealand has not been appointed by the peoples and countries of the western Indian Ocean as a spokesman for them. They are peoples who understand their interests and understand the role of the colonialist powers in the region. Being one of these countries does not give New Zealand the right to speak in the name of the states, governments, and peoples of this part of the world. New Zealand's conviction of the existence of such guardianship, in actual fact only means a clear retreat to the colonialist logic, which was exposed by the peoples since the first stages of the colonialist expansion movement that was implemented by the white man using blood, bullets, and gunpowder to destroy man, land, culture, and resources in this part of the vanquished world. [passage omitted]

Al-Qadhdhafi Discusses 'Mistakes' of Revolution

DW091234 Cologne ARD Television Network in German 2000 GMT 8 Mar 87

["Excerpts" from interview with Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by correspondent Lentz; date and place not given]

[Text] [Lentz] You have been personally responsible for the revolution for 17 years, and in doing so you have experienced ups and downs. Looking back, are you satisfied with the achievments?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I do not believe I can be satisfied with what we have achieved. We have made many mistakes, to be sure, and we also have learned many lessons. If we could start again with the experience we have now, we would do things differently. Of course, mistakes were made that should not have been made, and things were done that should not have been done, but that is normal. It is important for us to be able to learn from the past and use the assessment of the revolution for the future. The revolution is beginning only now.

[Lentz] Let us discuss the problem of international terrorism. Do you believe terrorism in general, and the fact that German citizens were taken hostage in Beirut in particular, are legitimate means of political action?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] My position is clear and has never changed. I reject hijacking, I reject the blowing-up of airplanes, I reject the abduction of hostages and any actions against civilians. I believe the whole world agrees on that. That is terrorism which must be combatted. However, it is necessary to examine the psychological reasons behind the spread of terrorism. My personal analysis regarding the Palestinians is this: Sometimes they are tempted to carry out terrorist acts with which we may not agree. However, the Palestinians are desparate and feel unfairly treated. Those groups consider such acts as a holy war against an enemy who behaves like a hateful crusader, a racist enemy who hates and wants to destroy Islam and the Orient, an enemy who does not want to leave us alone and does not want us to live in peace. Indeed, it all will deteriorate, and the entire next generation will become a generation of anger and violence. It will transport anger and terrorism to American and Europe. Those states which have not taken us seriously in the past will have to pay dearly.

[Lentz] How can the killing in Lebanon be stopped? Only by a Syrian intervention like the one that is taking place now?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] No, I do not believe that is a solution. I also doubt that this attempt makes sense. Even though the intervention came about at the Lebanese leaders' request, I do not believe it makes sense.

[Lentz] You are an ally of Syria and Al-Asad. How does the intervention affect your view of that alliance and Al-Asad?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I stand by Al-Asad and Syria. But that does not mean that whatever Syria is doing is correct or that I agree to whatever al-Asad is doing. Syria will see that it made a mistake and will back down.

[Lentz] If you intensify your commitment in Chad you will possibly have to expect a direct conflict between France and Libya. Are you considering that possibility?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] There is no justification for France's presence in Chad. I reiterate my official request to the French Government to prove that there is a military agreement between France and Chad, an agreement allowing them to interfere in Chad. However, the French troops will not be confronted with Libya but with guerrilla troops of the Chadian liberation army. That will put France in a very embarrassing situation.

Oil Minister Hosts Iranian Counterpart

LD092207 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Tripoli, March 9, IRNA — Visiting Iranian Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh held a two-hour talk with his Libyan counterpart Fawzi al-Shakshuki here Monday on oil issues including the current status of oil prices on the international market. Among other topics brought up at the meeting were commitment of OPEC member-states to their organization-assigned quotas and importance of further cooperation and solidarity among them to counter plots of oil consuming countries aimed at driving down oil prices.

Aqazadeh also briefed his Libyan counterpart on the outcome of his recently-concluded visit to Gabon and Algeria. In response, Al-Shakshuki underlined the need for OPEC member-states to observe their assigned quotas and refrain from offering discounts on the OPEC-set prices.

Sudanese State Council Member Meets Al-Khuwaylidi

JN061052 Khartoum SUNA in English 1000 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Tripoli, March 6 (SUNA) — Member of the State Council Idris al-Banna and the accompanying delegation met here yesterday with the member of the September revolution historical leadership Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi. The meeting reviewed bilateral relations and means of boosting them further as well as the situation in the Arab world.

Al-Banna and the accompanying delegation earlier in the day visited Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's residence which was targeted during the recent American aggression against Libya.

Meets With Al-Muntasir

LD061525 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] 'Umar Mustafa al-Muntasir, brother secretary of the General People's Committee, met with Brother Idris al-Banna, deputy chairman of the State Council in fraternal Sudan, this morning.

The meeting discussed the relations of fraternal cooperation between the Arab people in the Great Jamahiriyah and Sudan and the ways and means likely to strengthen and develop the aspects of this cooperation in a way that will achieve the aspirations of the Arab people in the two fraternal countries.

Sudanese Energy Minister Arrives in Tripoli

LD092206 Tripoli JANA in English 1855 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al Marikh 9, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Dr. 'Adam Madibu' the minister of energy in sisterly Sudan arrived in Tripoli at noon today on a visit to Great Jamahiriyah.

Dr. Madibu indicated that this visit to Great Jamahiriyah comes within the framework of consolidating the relations between the Arab people of Sudan and Great Jamahiriyah and develop them in a way that serves the interest of the one people in both sisterly countries and to put the ratified agreements in this respect into practice.

In a statement to JANA, he said that the exchange of such visits will enable us to strengthen and consolidate those relations.

Yugoslavia Vice President Arrives in Al-Jufrah

LD091421 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1330 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Yugoslav Vice President Lazar Mojsov arrived at Al-Jufrah this morning at the head of a Yugoslav delegation on an official visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, headed those at the airport to welcome the Yugoslav guest. The secretary of the General People's Committee and the secretaries of general people's committees, officers of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, the ambassador and staff of the Yugoslav Embassy in the Great Jamahiriyah, also participated in the welcome.

Talks With SFRY Begin

LD092227 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Excerpts] The Libyan-Yugoslav talks began in Al-Jufrah this evening. The talks were attended by brother secretary of the General People's Committee; secretary of the General People's Committee for Economy; and a number of experts and technicians, and from the Yugoslav side, Mr Lazar Mojsov, SFRY Presidency vice president; assistant foreign minister; and a number of experts and technicians from the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry's Middle East Department. [passage omitted]

Technical working committees have stemmed from these talks. They are commissioned to study and investigate the various aspects of bilateral cooperation and the means to develop this cooperation. The aforementioned committees began their work in Hun this evening.

Jabir Receives Delegation

LD101055 Tripoli JANA in English 1000 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Al-Jufra, Al-Marikh 10, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Col. Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander-in-chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces received yesterday Mr. Lazar Mojsov, vice-president of Yugoslavia collective state presidency.

Present at the meeting was Mr. Mojsov's accompanying delegation.

Hosts Dinner

LD101057 Tripoli JANA in English 1002 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Al-Jufra, Al-Marikh 10, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Col. Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander-in-chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces gave a dinner party in honour of Mr. Lazar Mojsov, vice-president of Yugoslavia's collective states presidency, and his accompanying delegation.

Present at the part were the secretary of the General People's Committee and members of the Libyan Arab delegation.

DPRK Delegation Leaves After Celebrations

LD082142 Tripoli JANA in English 1829 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al Marikh 8, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The Democratic Korea candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of Korean Workers' Party [Kye Ung-tae], and his accompanying delegation have left Tripoli this afternoon following their joining in the celebrations of the Libyan Arab people on the 10th anniversary of the establishment of people's power and the birth of the first Jamahiriyah in history.

He has expressed his happiness to have visited Great Jamahiriyah and have first-hand experience of the massive achievements accomplished for the Libyan Arab people by the great Al-Fatih revolution, apart from witnessing the applications of direct democracy.

Before leaving, he commented to JANA lauding the promotion of the existing relations between his friendly people and the Libyan Arabs emphasising that his visit has come within the framework of reinforcing and strengthening cooperation for the common benefit of Great Jamahiriyah and his country, Democratic Korea.

Vietnamese Delegation Leaves Tripoli 6 March

LD071056 Tripoli JANA in English 0955 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al Marikh 7, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Mr. 'Dam Quang Trung' the secretary of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party and the member of the State Council in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli last night after taking part in the Libyan Arab people's celebrations of the 10th anniversary of the establishment of people's authority and the birth of first Jamahiriyah in history.

Mr. Quang praised the direct people's democracy the Libyan Arab people practices over its land.

In a statement to JANA, Mr. Quang praised the giant cultural accomplishments the Libyan Arab people gained thanks to the great Al-Fatih revolution.

He denounced the failed U.S.-NATO barbarous aggression on the people of Great Jamahiriyah. 'The Libyan Arab people has scored great victory over U.S. imperialism in repulsing such barbarous aggression'.

Mr. Trung confirmed the solidity of the Libyan Arab-Vietnamese relations.

'Revolutionary' Committee Premises Blown Up

JN091740 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 8 Mar 87 pp 1, 6

[Text] Alexandria — An official of the National Front for the Salvation of Libya [NFSL] has stated that a group of Libyan nationalists blew up the headquarters of one of Al-Qadhdhafi's "revolutionary" committees on the ground floor of a building known as the Abu Jaziyah Building in the Julyanah area near Banghazi's military beach a few days ago. The explosion, which was heard throughout Banghazi, killed one of the building's residents, 'Umran al-Maghribi, and totally destroyed the revolutionary committee's premises.

NFSL sources in Libya have confirmed that the explosion occurred a day after Al-Qadhdhafi and his so-called revolutionary committees publicly executed nine Libyan citizens in Banghazi's Sports City. Al-Qadhdhafi had ordered the live relay of all the executions so that they would be seen by all Libyans in a desperate attempt by him and his aides to silence those who reject his regime and to abort constant attempts to topple it.

The NFSL official asserted that the explosion was a prompt response to the barbaric executions. The official affirmed that the recent request by Libyan Air Force officers for asylum in Egypt is part of a wave of rejection of the Al-Qadhdhafi regime, and demonstrates how members of the Libyan Armed Forces rally with the Libyan people to expose the Al-Qadhdhafi regime and to seriously work to overthrow Al-Qadhdhafi, rid the country of his tyranny, and establish a national, democratic, and constitutional regime in Libya.

Al-Qadhdhafi Cables Al-Asad on Anniversary

NC081427 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
1337 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has sent a cable of congratulations to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on the Syrian revolution anniversary. The text of the cable follows:

Brother Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic. On the occasion of Syria's 8 March revolution anniversary, it pleases me to send you warmest congratulations, wishing you good health, and the Syrian Arab people continued progress and prosperity. This occasion prompts me more than at any other time to emphasize that Arab unity remains the only weapon for the protection of the Arab nation and for ensuring its existence. Without the realization of this pan-Arab demand, the Arabs' land and resources will continue to be subject to the ambitions of the invader imperialists and Zionists. It is only through unity that the land can be liberated and the Arabs can occupy their proper position in history.

[Signed] Your Brother Colonel Mu‘ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Meanwhile, the brother leader of the revolution also made a congratulatory telephone call to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on the anniversary of the 8 March revolution in Syria.

MAURITANIA

President Announces 'Minor' Cabinet Reshuffle

AB100723 Paris AFP in French 1728 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Nouakchott, 9 Mar (AFP) — A minor reshuffle of the Mauritanian Government, affecting notably three ministries (information, culture, and telecommunications; interior; and justice and Islamic orientation), was effected today following a presidential decree published in Nouakchott.

According to the decree, the Ministry of Interior has been merged with the Ministry of Information and Telecommunications, and Lieutenant Colonel Djibril Ould Abdallahi retains his leadership over the new ministry. Former Information Minister Mohamed Mahmoud Ould Weddadi becomes adviser to the president on cultural affairs.

Furthermore, the former Ministry of Justice and Islamic Orientation now retains only the justice aspect, because Islamic orientation has now been attached to the Ministry of Culture.

Former Minister of Justice and Islamic Orientation Hamdi Samba Diop remains at his post at the Justice Ministry while the new Ministry of Culture and Islamic Orientation has been entrusted to Mohamed Saleh Ould Addoud, who is now entering the government.

Before his appointment, Ould Addoud was the president of the Supreme Court of Mauritania. He has been replaced at this post by Ahmedou Ould Abdelkader, adviser to the president on cultural affairs.

MOROCCO

Foreign Minister Receives Liberian Counterpart

LD061649 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Abdellatif Filali, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, met at the ministry this morning with his Liberian counterpart, John Bernard Blamo, whose current visit to Morocco comes within the framework of developing bilateral relations between Morocco and Liberia in the economic and social spheres.

Following this meeting, the Liberian minister made a statement in which he said the visit he and his accompanying delegation are paying to Morocco is in response to an invitation from Abdellatif Filali. The Liberian minister also referred to the deep-rooted ties between Liberia and Morocco, stressing that relations began during the era of His Late Majesty Mohamed V. He stated the two sides are working to strengthen their relations, especially in the economic and technical spheres, and that he hopes a cooperation agreement in these spheres will be signed. He also talked about trade between Morocco and Liberia, expressing his hope to see them develop and praising the good quality of Moroccan products. [passage ommitted]

Foreign Minister Pays Official Visit to Turkey

For reportage of the official visit by Abdellatif Filali, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, to Turkey, including his talks with Turkish Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu, see the Turkey section of the 10 March Western Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

SUDAN

Libyan, Chadian Delegations Meeting in Khartoum

JN091517 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 9 Mar (SUNA) Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi has said that delegations from the Libyan Jamahiriyah and Chad are currently in Khartoum for negotiations within the framework of the Sudanese initiative to end the Chadian conflict. In a news conference here this afternoon, Al-Mahdi explained that mere contact with the concerned parties is considered a success for the Sudanese initiative.

Al-Mahdi said the two delegations will return home to brief their leaderships on what has been attained. He told journalists that he could not elaborate further, adding that by its peaceful endeavors Sudan aims to halt the fighting between the two sides and that the failure of the Sudanese efforts means the continuation of war which harms the region and threatens world peace.

In his news conference, the prime minister said Sudan does not offer any facilities to the parties to the Chadian conflict, adding that any party that had used Sudanese airspace and territory had done so without Sudan's permission. He pointed out in this regard that Sudan is a vast country. Al-Mahdi reasserted that Sudan does not make war or combat contributions to this conflict. He said the Libyan forces which had entered Sudan along with a relief convoy had been ordered to return home.

Mediation Role Between Egypt, Libya Reported

JN061057 Khartoum SUNA in English 1005 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum Mar 6 (SUNA) — Sudan has decided to mediate between Egypt and Libya, Minister of Education Bakri Ahmad 'Adil told the daily *Al-Siyasah* issued here today.

The mediation comes within the framework of Sudan's sustained efforts that aims at unifying the Arab ranks and utilizing the two countries potentialities, 'Adil said.

The minister said that the conflict between Libya and Egypt emerges from their point of views towards Camp David accord. Sudan is qualified for mediation between the two countries, the minister said.

Al-Mahdi: No 'Negative Results' From Iran Visit

JN091507 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 9 Mar (SUNA) — Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi has said that he does not believe that his recent visit to Iran has had negative results. He affirmed that dealing with Iran was an Islamic and economic necessity.

Answering a question posed by the newspaper *Al-Siyasah* yesterday during the prime minister's meeting with mass media leaders on whether he believed that his visit to Iran had had negative results and involved a political risk, Al-Mahdi added that Sudan is boldly and clearly moving in all fields as part of a commitment to a certain type of behavior and credibility without hesitation or the reaction that this may cause. He explained that Sudan is trying to solve the problem between Iraq and Iran and that the government is liable to make mistakes.

The prime minister added that the ultimate ends and general philosphy that the government wants to reach will be submitted in the form of a report on the accomplishments and failures of the past year.

Iranian Information Delegation Arrives

JN061729 Khartoum SUNA in English 1717 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, Mar. 6 (SUNA) — An Iranian information delegation headed by the Ministry of Islamic Guidance under secretary arrived here today (Friday) on three-day visit to Sudan.

The delegation which comprises officials from Foreign and Information Ministries will discuss with the Sudanese officials ways of boosting the bilateral relations particularly in the field of information.

Finance Minister Returns From Romania Visit

JN091913 Khartoum SUNA in English 1734 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, March 9 (SUNA) — Minister of Finance and Economic Planning Bashir 'Umar, who returned from Romania yesterday, said he had conveyed two messages from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu to Chairman of the State Council Ahmad al-Mirghani and Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi.

Dr. 'Umar, who concluded a visit to Romania during which he discussed the economic cooperation between the two countries, said Ceausescu has extended an invitation to the two leaders to visit Romania.

"A Romanian delegation will arrive in the country on last March [as received] to continue talks with Sudanese officials", the minister said.

He added that the talks had revivewed the possibility of rescheduling Sudan's debts to Romania that amount to 58 million dollars.

"Romania has agreed to give Sudan a six-year period of grace and 12 years as a period of repayment", the minister said.

Government Said 'Not To Pay' Numayri Regime Debt

NC071120 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
0600 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Sudan has decided not to pay the debts of Numayri's ousted regime, 'Abdallah Muhammad Ahmad, chairman of the Sudanese Constituent Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee, said in his statements to the Qatari paper *Al-'Urubah* in its edition published 2 days ago.

'Abdallah Ahmad told *Al-'Urubah* that the $11 billion borrowed by Numayri were not spent in developing the economy, but in consolidating his dictatorship. Those who lent him the money knew that and have to pay the price now, he added.

Army Chief Receives Italian Admiral on Visit

JN091822 Khartoum SUNA in English 1726 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, March 9 (SUNA) — The Sudanese Armed Forces commander-in-chief Gen. Fawzi Ahmad al-Fadil received here today the chairman of the Italian military delegation Adm-Mario Porta who arrived here today on a three-day official visit to Sudan.

Al-Fadil said in a press statement after the meeting that they had discussed the possibility of cooperation between the Armed Forces in the two countries and boosting of cooperation in the field of upgrading and training of Sudanese officers and soldiers and modernizing the military equipment in the Sudan.

Al-Fadil added that the meeting also touched on the situation in southern Sudan. He said that he had acquainted the visitor with the nature of the military operations in southern Sudan which he said has no "religious dimensions".

He said the military operations in the south are to preserve the security and maintain the law and protect the citizens there from the attacks of the outlaws indicating that the Italian delegation has understood the nature of the situation there.

Gen. al-Fadil said the joint meeting between the Sudanese officials and the Italian delegation started today.

The visit comes in the context of the Defence Ministry's policy of boosting cooperation between the Armed Forces in the two countries and as a result of the discussions conducted by the Italian Defence Ministry who visited Sudan last month. [as received]

SDAR Figure Received by Sudan's Al-Mahdi

LD100447 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] The SDAR interior minister has been received in Sudan by Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi. Mr Abdelkader Taleb Omar, who has been in Khartoum since 5 March, gave him a message from President Abdelaziz.

Cabinet Meets; Briefed on Security Situation

JN082057 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, March 8 (SUNA) — The cabinet approved in its regular meeting here Sunday a draft financial cooperation agreement between Sudan and the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG). According to the agreement, FRG will rehabilitate the telecommunication networks in Khartoum and a number of sugar factories in central and eastern Sudan and would provide the agricultural bank with an estimated DM44 million to support small agricultural land owners.

The cabinet was also briefed on and approved the outcome of finance minister's latest visit to Romania which resulted in an agreement whereby a Romanian delegation is to visit Sudan during the few coming days to conclude talks on a joint trade protocol.

The cabinet was also briefed by the minister of interior on the security situation in the country. A committee comprising the attorney general and the minister of interior was formed to follow up the maintenance of security in the country.

Al-Mahdi Discusses Rebel Attack on Pibor

JN091609 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1432 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 9 Mar (SUNA) — Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, prime minister and defense minister, has said that large forces of the rebel movement estimated at approximately two battalions recently attacked the town of Pibor, a little town with a small Armed Forces garrison estimated to be the size of a company. Al-Mahdi did not say whether or not the movement occupied the town. He asserted that the crisis will be decided following the current reinforcement of the Armed Forces there.

In a news conference here today, Al-Mahdi said he believes the rebel movement meant to attack the (Morli) tribe residing in the area which is known for its hostility to the rebel movement. Al-Mahdi added that because the town does not constitute a strategic target, the attack on it was only meant to kill more innocent people after the movement's threats failed to empty Juba, Waw, and Malakal of their residents. With this attack the movement aimed to raise the morale of its fighters, he said.

Al-Mahdi denied that the peace initiative he declared here last Saturday was a reaction to the rebel movement's attack on Pibor. He said he has disclosed the details of it so that it will not be linked to this incident or be understood as being made from a position of weakness. Al-Mahdi asserted that the initiative began 1 and 1/2 months ago and has nothing to do with the Pibor incident as this incident had had no effect.

SPLA Condemns BBC-VOA Reports on Fall of Pibor

EA091752 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Arabic 1330 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] The official SPLA-SPLM spokesman has condemned the deliberate method adopted by the BBC and Voice of America of distorting facts and presenting misleading information regarding the current war between the SPLM and the Khartoum government.

The SPLA-SPLM official spokesman's condemnation is a response to reports carried by the BBC and VOA in which they said that SPLA forces had recaptured the city of Pibor from Khartoum forces, when the SPLA defeated the forces of the Khartoum regime and occupied the city on 4 March 1987.

The official SPLM spokesman emphasized that the city of Pibor was always under the control of the forces of the Khartoum regime, and the allegations by the BBC and VOA that Pibor's fall to the SPLA forces was a recapture was an attempt to undermine the significance of the fall of the city of Pibor into the hands of the SPLA.

The movement's official spokesman explained that the fall of Pibor into the hands of our forces received no attention from either the BBC or VOA, which gave complete and extensive coverage over a period of 4 days to the allegations of the Khartoum government claiming that its forces destroyed an SPLA forces' base 4 miles south of Pibor on 21 February 1987. The spokesman explained that the alleged base was nothing but a small observation post which the SPLA had decided to evacuate as a tactical measure in the framework of the general strategy to occupy the city of Pibor.

The SPLA-SPLM official spokesman concluded by saying that in light of this evident bias on the part of the two famous broadcasting stations toward the Khartoum regime, they should be renamed so as to conform with their [word indistinct] work. The first should be called the Khartoum Broadcasting Corporation instead of the BBC, and the other Voice of Khartoum, instead of VOA.

ETHIOPIA

Joint Ministerial Meeting Communique With Kenya

EA062244 Nairobi KNA in English 1520 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Joint communique issued at end of 29th Ethiopia-Kenya ministerial consultative committee meeting held in Addis Ababa 3-5 March]

[Excerpts] The committee was one of the series of meetings which have traditionally reviewed cooperation between the two countries as a forum for exchange of views and the strengthening of the brotherly ties between them. The high level Kenya delegation was upon arrival accorded a warm and friendly welcome by a high level Ethiopian delegation headed by Comrade Berhanu Bayeh, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPE and minister of foreign affairs. The Kenya delegation was led by Mr J.K. Ole Tipis, minister of state in the president's office. [passage omitted]

The two sides held extensive and useful discussions on wide ranging topics of bilateral, regional and international concern. The talks were held in a spirit of friendship, mutual understanding and trust.

Comrade Berhanu Bayeh briefed at length Hon J.K. Ole Tipis and the Kenya delegation led by him on measures taken to combat drought and its crippling effects as well as the overall socio-economic development of the country, under the guidance of the WPE led by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, general secretary of the WPE, chairman of the PMAC, commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Socialist Ethiopia. The Kenyan delegation was in particular apprised of Ethiopia's ten-year perspective development plan and principally the resettlement and villagization programmes which form major components of Ethiopia's efforts to forestall the recurrence of famine and to bring about an acceleration in its socio-economic development endeavour in the countryside.

Comrade Berhanu also outlined the multifarious activities presently in full swing in Ethiopia, in the political field, to establish a People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia following the recent approval in a referendum by the Ethiopian people of the first democratic constitution in their age-old history.

On his part, Hon J.K. Tipis briefed the Ethiopian side on development efforts in Kenya, which is striving to improve the living standards of its people by overcoming the challenges of underdevelopment under the leadership of the Kenya African National Union (KANU) headed by His Excellency Mr Daniel T. arap Moi, president of the Republic of Kenya. Hon Tipis underlined that the source of power in Kenya, as in many countries, was the people. The ruling party, KANU, had therefore undertaken a massive recruitment exercise for membership. The party was today a truly mass movement. In keeping with the well established tradition of Kenya as a democratic country, general elections, which are held every five years, will take place next year and the people will be exercising their rights as a free people to choose their representatives.

Hon Tipis reviewed Kenya's strategy for development as embodied in the district focus for rural development. The strategy actively involves people in every district in the development of their area. The Ethiopian delegation was also apprised of the 8-4-4 education system as a vehicle for giving access to education opportunities for the youth of the country.

The two sides were in complete agreement on the paramount importance of convening the joint ministerial consultative meeting and its subsidiary organs on a regular basis. This will enhance the already existing exemplary neighbourly ties between the two sisterly countries.

Reviewing the situation along their common border, the two sides noted with satisfaction that the border was normally peaceful. Sometimes this peace is disturbed by cattle rustlers, bandits and other anti-social elements. The two sides reaffirmed their determination to stamp out this activity and, if necessary, the security forces of the two brotherly countries may mount joint operations. In this connection, they undertook to hold close contacts and consultations at appropriate levels, particularly at the level of border administrators and commissioners meeting to review progress as well as to remedy local incidents that may occasionally arise.

The two sides also reaffirmed the need to further develop and expand trade and economic ties, bilaterally as well as within the framework of the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) for which there exists vast possibilities. They have, to this effect signed a trade protocol for 1987.

Concerning joint projects, the two sides discussed the prospects of cooperation in transport, agriculture, livestock, fisheries and water. They agreed to pursue the matter further at any early date.

In their continuing effort to consolidate relations between their two governments and peoples, the two sides signed a cultural, educational and scientific co-operation agreement as well as an agreement on co-operation in broadcasting and information.

In the area of defence and security both sides agreed to continue cooperation and to exchange information along their common border.

On regional issues, both sides characterisied as positive the fact that dialogue has been initiated between Socialist Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of Somalia. The Kenya side paid glowing tribute to the wisdom of the leaders of Ethiopia and Somalia in turning a new charter in their relations by entering into a dialogue. The Kenya delegation expressed its sincere hope that with determination and patience, the dialogue would be rewarded with success.

On international issues, both sides reaffirmed their unflinching support for the commitment to the principles enshrined in the Charters of the UN, the OAU and the Non-aligned Movement. They underscored the fact that non-interference in the internal affairs of others, and respect for unity, territorial integrity and sovereignty of states and the acceptance of boundaries existing at accession to independence are not only fundamental principles for the promotion of mutual trust and co-operation, but are also the foundation of lasting peace among states.

As regards the critical situation in southern Africa, the two sides strongly condemned the heinous criminal acts of repression and oppression perpetrated against the heroic peoples of South Africa and Namibia by the racist regime and its intensification of campaigns of destabilization against neighbouring and Frontline States. They emphasised the need for the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against the racist minority regime in accordance with the provisions of Chapter Seven of the Charter of the UN.

In their unequivocal condemnation of South Africa's intransigence over its illegal occupation of Namibia, the two sides called for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435/78 as the only acceptable basis for the unconditional and speedy independence of Namibia.

The two sides also deplored the unqualified assistance being rendered by certain countries to the counter-revolutionary UNITA and MNR bandits in order to undermine the sovereignty, peace and unity of Angola and Mozambique, both members of the OAU and the UN.

Both sides expressed grave concern at the escalation of the arms race. They agreed that the threat of nuclear and chemical warfare was no longer an exclusive East-West issue, that it concerned all mankind and that it was incumbent upon all states and indeed the international community as a whole to strive strenously for the preservation and promotion of (?world) peace through the adoption of disarmament measures. In this regard, the two sides commended the U.S.-USSR talks on disarmament currently underway in Geneva and expressed hope that these would yield positive results. [passage omitted]

As Kenya will host the next joint ministerial consultative committee meeting in 1988, the leader of the Kenya delegation extended the invitation of the Government of Kenya to the Ethiopia Government.

Defense Minister Kidan Visits Moscow for Talks

For reportage of Defense Minister Tesfaye Gebre Kidan's visit to Moscow, including his talks with USSR Defense Minister Sokolov and other officials, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 9 March Soviet Union *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

UGANDA

Museveni Vows To Wipe Out Rebels in North

EA092133 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1900 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Excerpts] President Yoweri Museveni has said that the government has now resolved to wipe out rebels in the north of the country by following them up wherever they are until they are all thrown out.

Addressing a public rally in Gulu Town over the weekend, the president reaffirmed that the NRA [National Resistance Army] objective is to defeat the bandits and save the civilian population from misery. He called on the people of Gulu District to help the government in this drive by reporting the bandits to the government authorities. The president said that the rebels are criminals who murdered people in cold blood and are now fighting to escape punishment for their murderous crimes.

Mr Museveni told the rally that from the military point of view, the rebels are not making any headway at all because ever since the conflict started last year, over 2,000 rebels have been killed and over 1,400 guns captured. He went on to say that, wherever the NRA had weakened the rebels by scoring decisive victories upon them, the problem which has to be solved now is to alleviate the suffering of the civilians caught up in the fighting. He revealed that last Friday, the rebels attempted a futile attack on Lira Town, resulting in the killing of 92 rebels. [passage omitted]

He advised the people of Gulu to guard against rumormongers who [word indistinct] and speculate about the situation in the north for their own benefit. The president advised the people of the district to air their views through the Resistance Councils and ignore the lies of businessmen and speculators in Kampala who are only interested in playing on peoples' tribal sentiments to invoke support. He reiterated that the NRA is only against criminals like those who committed crimes in West Nile and Luwero.

Earlier, President Museveni met and addressed members of the Resistance Councils and elders at Acholi Inn Hotel and expressed sympathy for the troubles caused by rebels last month. He asked them to, as a committee, to sit down with the district administrators and commanders and discuss in detail how best the lives of civilians can be saved in the drive to wipe out rebels. He said they should inform him of their decision on this matter.

He informed them that a liaison officer had been established in all brigades to register complaints from the public about misbehaving soldiers. The president said that any NRA soldier who misbehaved and was reported is punished promptly. He reminded them that it was everybody's duty to work and remove a war situation.

The president told the committee members and elders that they should ignore lies like those drummed up by Bishop Benon Ogwal [Bishop of Gulu] alleging that the NRM [National Resistance Movement] government was against the Acholis. Mr Museveni reassured them that it is nonsense to say that the NRA is an army of Banyankole and Baganda.

Addressing the people of Lira Town yesterday, President Yoweri Museveni announced that in the next session of the National Resistance Council, a law is going to be passed requiring leaders of Uganda to declare their wealth and show how the wealth was got. He also clarified that the move does not mean the government is against one being rich as long as his wealth is rightly acquired.

Talking on the situation in northern Uganda, Mr Museveni said that the rebels are bound to lose the war like they lost in the past because they have no good reason for fighting. When they were in power, he told the rally, the rebels were only killing people and destroying Uganda's economy.

Mr Museveni also advised the people of Lira and Apach Districts not to be swayed by lies of ex-soldiers and Kampala-based businessmen who mislead people by alleging that former soldiers who surrender had been killed. The president clarified that this was an absolutely dangerous lie because former soldiers who surrender [words indistinct]. Those who had proved fit have already been reabsorbed and those found unfit would be sent back to their homes. President Museveni called upon the people of Lira and Apach Districts to avoid the scar of the war being offered to them by the rebels and instead should ask for the rehabilitation of factories, roads, and all other social amenities.

He assured the people of the areas that the NRM government is interested in bringing peace to Uganda mostly through the Resistance Councils. He went on to say that the government would continue to defend them against the atrocities of the rebels. Mr Museveni told the people to use their resistance to criticize and advise the government instead of waging war.

He said that those who surrender will be assisted financially to uplift their social well-being, but criminals who murdered people deliberately would be punished for their wrongs. The president told the people that the rebels would shortly be wiped out so that people would be able to go back to their homes.

Rebel Attack on Lira Disrupts Rail, Road Links

EA101146 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1000 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Kampala — Ugandan rebels have attacked the town of Lira for the second time in 4 days. The attack has disrupted rail and road links between Lira and the eastern town of Soroti.

About 1,000 rebels are said to have attacked the central Ugandan town, but they later fled after government soldiers killed some ofthem. Military sources in Kampala did not disclose casualty figures among government soldiers, but many of them are said to have been wounded.

Envoy Rejects Human Rights Violations Claims

EA081847 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Uganda's high commissioner to Tanzania, Prince Patrick Kaboyo, has strongly rejected foreign press reports that the new revolutionary government of President Yoweri Museveni is engaged in acts of human rights violations. He told local and foreign newsmen at a press conference in Dar es Salaam today that the peace currently enjoyed by the people of Uganda has been the product of the government of the National Resistance Movement, NRM, which has made the protection of human rights its business. The government of the NRM, he declared, is not condoning acts of violations of human rights, but, on the contrary, he said, it is the preoccupation of the government to guarantee human rights.

Prince Kaboyo accused the London-based weekly *The Concorde* and *Guardian* newspapers of telling false stories that northern Uganda, including Gulu and Soroti, had been overrun by rebel groups. The high commissioner told newsmen that the rebel groups had been defeated in their objective of a military initiative in northern Uganda and have been decimated as a result.

On the current security situation, Prince Kaboyo condemned as a senseless killing, like the murder of former Ugandan energy minister, Dr Andrew Kayiira. He warned that the Uganda Government would not tolerate disturbances of the peace in Uganda, saying the perpetrators of violence will be tracked down and dealt with decisively.

CHAD

Sudan-Mediated Ceasefire With Libya Denied

AU100837 Paris AFP in English 0828 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Paris, March 10 (AFP) — Chadian sources in Paris denied Tuesday that Sudan had managed to arrange a ceasefire between the Ndjamena government and Libya.

Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said on television Monday that Khartoum had succeeded in concluding a ceasefire and in bringing Libya and Chad together to look for a peaceful settlement.

The sources here confirmed that a Libyan delegation had gone to Khartoum and met Ndjamena government representatives for the first time, but added that the talks had failed "because of Tripoli's intransigence".

The sources said the Libyans were demanding that their troops remain in northern Chad, where they are ostensibly supporting the ousted Transitional Government of National Union, but that the French forces backing the Ndjamena regime should leave the country.

Ndjamena wanted Sudan "to indicate clearly who is the obstacle to peace", the sources said.

'Particularly Intensive' Libyan Bombing of Fada

AB092053 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Excerpt] The Libyan regime has not learned its lessons from the defeat inflicted on its army by the FANT [Chadian National Armed Froces] over the past weekend in Zouar. In fact, since 1000 this morning, the Libyan Air Force has been bombing Fada in the Ennedi region in a particularly intensive manner. At this time, these air raids are still continuing. [passage omitted]

French Plane Said Set Ablaze 'South' of Parallel

LD091910 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1840 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Bardai, 9 Mar JANA — The GUNT Interior Minister made a statement that said:

A special group of the National Liberation Army of Chadian legitimate GUNT today attacked a French *Transall* cargo aircraft south of the 16th Parallel. The aircraft was carrying supplies, medicine, and fuel. The attack led to an explosion that set the aircraft ablaze.

The Chadian Information Minister stressed that this daring operation should be viewed along with the operation of Chari River Bridge, which was carried out by a special group of GUNT forces on 8 March 1987. This confirms the insistence of GUNT on continuing the armed struggle until Chad is completely liberated and the French-American occupation forces and their agents in Ndjamena are defeated.

Bardai Radio Says Ndjamena Violated 3-Day Truce

AB100954 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1825 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] First of all, let us recall that taking advantage of the 3-day cease-fire decreed unilaterally by GUNT, the FAN [Northern Armed Forces] enemy infiltrated into the Borkou region to carry out an operation between Kirdimi and Kichi Kichi. Unfortunately for the enemy, the valiant fighters and troops of the ANL [National Liberation Army] responded in the appropriate manner, making the aggressors fail woefully in their attempt. The tally given by the Ministry of Information communique spoke of more than 20 people killed on the enemy side, while two vehicles were destroyed with their weapons and ammunition. The communique added that the enemy will be held responsible for any generalized resumption of the fighting.

Forces of evil have always shown their true faces through acts of cowardice. Today, a FAN group took advantage of the truce decreed unilaterally by GUNT to make an incursion into the Kirdimi sector. This clearly demonstrates the perfidious action of the enemy conforming to its treacherous nature. We need to examine this situation a little: By sending troops to the Borkou region upon France's directives, the FAN enemy undoubtedly wanted to test the military vigilance of the valiant ANL fighters and soldiers. This operation cost the FAN apprentice warriors over 20 casualties, excluding the material losses suffered by the poor attackers. In fact, the Hissein Habre rebel group had purely and simply dispatched [words indistinct] in contempt to their lives. Taking a look at the attack from a political perspective, the suicidal operation carried out by the FAN element 80 km from Faya was an insult to all African states and the OAU, now making every effort to restore peace in Chad. This belligerent act by the Ndjamena clique clearly demonstrates the (?bloody) stand adopted by the forces of imperialism and reaction, as well as their refusal to accept any peaceful solution under OAU auspices.

France, which has just considerably reinforced its occupation army in Chad, has had a hand in the recent events at Kirdimi, at the expense of its agents. One need only listen to comments made by RFI [Radio France Internationale] and other media close to the French Government to be convinced.

At the same time, the French Government is working for the installation of its military bases of aggression. The runway of the Ndjamena International Airport has been extended to serve the French cause, and it can now handle *Boeing 747* planes without any difficulty. These large transport aircraft will carry (?troops) and war equipment. In the east, precisely in Abeche and in Beltine, France has just sent some antitank helicopters. It has also extended and rehabilitated some airfields at (?Zigey) and Moussoro in the west. It is clear that France is installing itself by force in a portion of Chad. And as it was during the colonial days, it is these new military installations in the Ouaddai region that Michel Aurillac, French cooperation minister, will inspect in the coming days.

The concentration of French troops in the eastern part of Chad, just as in the west, can in no way intimidate the valiant ANL. As the last GUNT military communique stressed, by attacking the ANL positions, the enemy has taken the risk of generalizing the conflict. Cowardly provoked, the ANL will henceforth return fire with fire, a language that is dear to our enemy. Does violence not call for violence?

Still on the military field, France, the United States, and their FAN agent are doing everything to extend their military operations to Chad's neighboring states. After unsuccessfully using the Chad-Niger border region to infiltrate their elements into the Tibesti region, the forces of evil are looking for excuses to carry out their adventurous operations in the Sudanese territory, as can be shown by their concentration on the Chad-Sudanese border. The Ndjamena group, which is still manipulated by France and the United States, says Sudan's Dafour Province is harboring Libyan forces on alert. This is a blatant lie, as the denial from the Sudanese Government attests.

The allegations made against our neighbor to the east is aimed at three preoccupations of the Franco-American imperialism [words indistinct]: On the one hand, it is aimed at attacking Sudan's neutrality in the Chadian conflict, and on the other hand, at sabotaging any Sudanese initiative toward national reconciliation in Chad. Finally, it is aimed at putting pressure on the present Sudanese Government, which ousted their agent Numaryi, to bring this government under the influence of Western imperialism.

Representative to OAU Meeting Interviewed

AB091507 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 9 Mar 87 pp 30, 31

[Interview with Michel Froud, Chadian Government representative to the OAU ministerial conference, by *Fraternite Matin* correspondent Mohamed Fana in Addis Ababa — date not given]

[Text] [Question] Do you consider the withdrawal of the Libyan-phrased topic "Franco-American Aggression" from the OAU agenda as a victory for Chad?

[Answer] Before answering your question, I would first of all like to say that I and the Chadian people were pleasantly surprised to read in *Fraternite Matin* the interview granted by the "wiseman of Africa" [Ivorian President Houphouet-Boigny] to AFP, in which he dealt with the Chadian issue the way Chadians feel about it. He weighed all the pros and cons and spoke the truth. Talking about truth, I would like to quote him: "Friendship is maintained by the truth." This is a very significant sentence with a deep meaning. The Chadian people were victims of Libyan lies. Only the truth can restore the Chadian people's rights. It is only the truth that can bring Africa in particular, and the international community in general, to understand and help Chad recover its dignity, independence, and territorial integrity. The words of President Houphouet-Boigny gladdened our hearts, and we sincerely thank him for that. As you know, one can never speak the truth in all the international bodies. The OAU has dragged its feet on the Chadian issue for too long. It did not honestly deal with the Chadian issue in its true dimensions for several years. The OAU has never wanted to assume its responsibilities on the Chadian conflict. But today, thanks to President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, a giant stride has been made in favor of martyred Chad, a victim of aggression.

[Question] How do you explain the silence of the countries, formerly in solidarity with Libya, and the rejection of the Al-Qadhdhafi prize at this 45th marathon session?

[Answer] To begin with, the Libyan regime's former unflinching supporters; let's cast our minds back to the past. In 1982-83, Tripoli had wanted, and even decided, to convene an OAU summit on its territory. Two summits were successively held with two resounding failures. The first failure was due to the Saharan issue, while the second was due to the Chadian-Libyan conflict. I can therefore say that since that time Chad has had some friends, as has Libya. Libya had fewer friends than Chad, but the difference was that Libya's friends were more vociferous, even more than Tripoli itself. Chad had many friends, but they nearly never spoke out. So when strengths were compared, one had the impression that Chad was in a situation within the OAU. But from that period up to now, a change has occurred to the detriment of Libya, and this change is not quite independent of the Chadian-Libyan issue. Libya has the habit of giving money to some African leaders who go to international conferences to be its spokesmen and griots [minstrels who sings the praises of the ruler]. Thus, when these sell-outs bought by Libya finished their work, the impression that emerged was that Chad was not heard despite its just cause. But the recent change is to Chad's advantage, because one hears less and less often from Libya's friends. This is because Libya gives out money less and less often now and has just lost its money in the Chadian sand through subversion. Because it is enduring defeat upon defeat at the hands of the Chadian National Armed Forces, Libya finally has nothing more to give to its griots. And because these griots are not getting anything any longer, they keep quiet, as we saw at this session in Addis Ababa.

[Question] Are you saying Libya is isolated today within the pan-African organization?

[Answer] The Tripoli regime is currently alone and isolated, as shown by this session, because when its representative was speaking, he was almost booed. The delegates knew that everything he was saying was only lies. On the other hand, when the Chadian delegate took the floor, he was listened to attentively. As for the Al-Qadhdhafi prize, Libya last year proposed that item ["Franco-American Aggression"] for the agenda. The member-states very politely rejected it and asked for further information. This year the Libyans came back with the same issue, while there is no change. This shows the Libyans are making fun of the African and the international community. Though the Libyans are aware that the OAU in 1986 rejected the proposal regarding the setting up of this prize, I do not understand why they brought up the issue as if the Africans were unable to remember last year. Africa is not what Al-Qadhdhafi thinks it is, but I would not be surprised if Libya brings up that issue in 1988 without any new element, because nobody is disturbed by this in Tripoli.

[Question] President Hissein Habre was said to have sent a letter to the OAU stating that national reconciliation was achieved in Chad. Can you throw some light on this issue?

[Answer] It is true that President Hissein Habre sent a message to the OAU in which he relieved the African organization of any mission of mediation for national reconciliation because the intra-Chadian reconciliation process is almost complete. Since the Libyan invader has begun genocide against civilians in the occupied zones, Goukouni Oueddei's armed forces turned against the invaders.

During that period, the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] aided the patriotic forces that became aware of the interests of their people and their country. Unity between the FANT and the forces faithful to Goukouni Oueddei was achieved during that period. As the chief of Goukouni's armed forces stated, all Chadians are waging the same war to liberate the national territory.

As of now, the Armed Forces are under the command of Hissein Habre, the legitimate head of the Chadian state. There are no more Chadians siding with the Libyan invaders. We can therefore say that the national reconciliation process is achieved, and that partly explains the decision made by President Habre. Chad can no longer agree to expose its internal conflicts to an international organization, and in particular to the OAU.

[Question] Was Goukouni Oueddei's long visit to Algeria, where he met with the OAU chairman, the last step in the Chadian national reconciliation process?

[Answer] That was a turning point.... Goukouni Oueddei knew what happened to him in Libya. It was an event followed by the world. Fortunately, he is now outside Libya where he was kept prisoner. We wish he would seize this opportunity to definitively put into action what he said so well in words while in Tripoli.

[Question] What is the current situation in Chad, which is still occupied and attacked by Libya?

[Answer] Very satisfactory, when one takes into account the fact that the FANT came to power in 1982. Before then, the situation was catastrophic because Chad was a country torn by divided factions. You could not go to the interior of the country without being checked every 20 km. Every single faction had its own checkpoints and was running its own portion of the territory. Even Ndjamena was divided between numerous factions. Now you can go from zone to zone in the territory controlled by the patriotic forces without any harrassment. You can therefore circulate freely in all the regions except the Borkou, Ennedi, and Tibesti regions, partially occupied by the invasion forces. Some of these regions are now freed after very harsh combat.

Chad is a legitimate state today. It is no longer the ghost state it used to be a few years back. Despite its poor means, Chad is determined to meet the challenge it is facing and will strive not only to improve the citizens' standard of living but also to develop the nation's potential.

The international organizations and the countries friendly with Chad are all satisfied with the reorganization undertaken since 1982. Management is sound; the channels for their aid are clearly defined; and the results are visible and positive.

Clearly stated, economic activity has resumed, but taking the international economic crisis into account, we are facing some difficulties. They will not, however, hinder our progress.

In conclusion, the Chadian people are determined to work and drive the Libyan invaders out of Chad. This is the most important thing.

GUNT Official Critical of Gabonese Initiative

LD092035 Paris International Service in French
1245 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] On the subject of Chad, one may note the statement made by the number two man of the new GUNT of Acheikh Ibn Oumar. According to him, too many African leaders are currently meddling in the Chadian crisis for internal policy ends. Mr Nadjita Yombel seems particularly to be criticizing the initiatives of Gabonese President Omar Bongo.

GHANA

Togolese Foreign Minister Urges Normal Ties

AB071520 Paris AFP in French 1303 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Accra, 7 Mar (AFP) — Togolese Foreign Minister Atsou Koffi Amega on Saturday called for a normalization in the relations between his country and Ghana. These relations greatly deteriorated after the coup attempt against the Togolese Government last September, it was announced in Accra.

Mr Amega, who was received by Ghanaian President Flight Lieutenant Rawlings on the occasion of ceremonies marking Ghana's 30th independence anniversary, stated that Togo and Ghana, as neighbors, must favor good relations between them, the same source pointed out.

Following last September's coup attempt against the regime of General Gnassingbe Eyadema, Togolese president, the authorities in Lome accused Ghana and Burkina Faso of supporting the opponents responsible for the shoot-out.

Despite the slow improvement in relations between the two countries, the border is still closed on the Ghanaian side. A reconciliation meeting under the auspices of Ivorian President Felix Houphouet-Boigny and Denis Sassou-Nguesso, the Congolese head of state and OAU chairman, was expected to take place in Yamoussoukro last January, but it was canceled at the last minute.

Obeng Returns From Japan, Washington 9 March

AB090916 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] A member of the PNDC and chairman of the Committee of Secretaries, Mr P.V. Obeng, returned home early this morning after leading a four-member goodwill and resource-mobilization mission to Japan. The visit was to express Ghana's appreciation to the Japanese Government for numerous assistance to the economic recovery program.

It will be recalled that since the launching of the program, Japan has offered grants to rehabilitate some of the country's roads, transport, and telecommunications systems. The delegation was also in Washington to hold talks with officials of the World Bank.

SENEGAL

Opposition Seeks To Form National Front

AB071705 Paris AFP in French 1311 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Text] Dakar, 5 Mar (AFP) — A call for setting up a people's national front (opposition) — open to all Senegalese citizens, political parties, and trade unions — was made this week in Senegal by the leaders of three left-wing parties and some independent professionals.

According to a document handed to the press, the main aim of this front, which does not portray itself as a political party, is the liberation and renovation of Senegal. High on its sponsoring committee is Mamadou Dia, former president of the council (from 1959 to 1962).

The committee that initiated the formation of the front consists of leaders of three political parties: Majhmout Diop, of the African Independence Party (Marxist-Leninist); Doudou Sarr, of the Workers Communist League (Trotskyist); and Abdoulaye Thiaw, of the People's Democratic Movement (Self-Managed Socialist), as well as some independent persons belonging to various professions.

According to observers, the front is a new attempt at opposition regrouping outside the political parties, which have been forbidden any coalition by the electoral code.

The setting up of the front follows the failure of recent negotiations for a large regrouping by most of the 15 opposition parties in Senegal.

Four of these parties had formed the Suxali Rewmi Front (to redress the country), while five others set up the Senegalese Democratic Alliance. The Suxali Rewmi Front later announced its own dissolution, while the second grouping still exists but does not carry out political activities.

SIERRA LEONE

PRC To Build Army Headquarters, Low-Cost Housing

AB062124 Paris AFP in French 1607 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Freetown, 6 Mar (AFP) — China will construct the Sierra Leonean Army Headquarters in Freetown, as well as low-cost residential buildings, under an agreement signed in the Sierra Leonean capital today.

This agreement was jointly signed by President Joseph Momoh and PRC Ambassador Luo Jiahuan. A similar agreement is to be signed in Ghana shortly.

The agreement provides that the Chinese will build 220 low-cost houses and rehabilitate three food industry units run by the Chinese in Sierra Leone within the next 18 months.

Furthermore, instructors and two Chinese sea patrol boats are expected in Freetown this month to help the Sierra Leonean Navy fight smuggling.

MADAGASCAR

Anti-Asian Rioting Spreads, Victims Flee

AB091322 Paris AFP in English 1300 GMT 9 March 87

[Text] Antananarivo, March 9 (AFP) — Members of Madagascar's Indo-Pakistani community were fleeing the country after anti-Asian rioting spread at the weekend, informed sources said here Monday. [9 March]

As at Antsirabe, 150 kilometres (100 miles) south of here, where the disturbances began 12 days ago, and at Toliary, on the southwest coast last Friday, shops and homes of Asians were looted and sometimes set on fire.

Sources here said incidents had occurred at Farafangana, on the east coast, while refugees arriving in the French Indian Ocean Island of Reunion said Fianarantsoa, south of Antisirabe, and Taoloparo, in the extreme southeast, had also been affected.

No physical attacks were reported against the Asians, though some 50 looters are said to have been hurt.

[Word indistinct] Antananarivo Asian shops were closed Monday, and several families of Indian origin but with French nationality from Toliary and Farafangana were put up in French Embassy property here.

Air Madagascar reported passengers from provincial towns crowding on to flights from the capital, and applications for exit visas were reported to be flooding into the Interior Ministry.

The government-controlled press and radio have said nothing of the riots, and the authorities here have not commented. But in Reunion, the Malagasy consul blamed the 25,000 Asians, who control much of the retail trade in Madagascar, for arousing jealousy with their lifestyle.

The incidents had a psychological rather than political cause, the consul said, adding, "Madagascar is going through a serious economic crisis, and the Indo-Pakistani community is too obviously well off."

The government was waiting to obtain more information before imparting blame for these "acts of vandalism," the consul said.

Some 500 protectors staged a silent demonstration against the rioting Monday after marching through the streets of Saint Denis. They handed in letters to the consul and the Reunion authorities asking them to act to "ensure the survival and safety" of members of the Asian community.

Eighteen refugees from Madagascar arrived from Antananarivo Sunday to join relatives in Reunion. They said the situation in the Malagasy capital was tense, and Indian traders had kept their shops closed and were staying indoors, though no incidents had been reported.

Friday's rioting in the town of Toliary had been particularly violent, the refugees said. Almost all Asian shops and homes had been looted, and 1,000 people had taken refuge in army barracks or fled the town.

MOZAMBIQUE

GDR Delegation Arrives for Talks 7 March

MB080614 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Guenther Kleiber, member of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Central Committee Politburo and GDR Council of Ministers deputy chairman, arrived in Maputo yesterday on an official visit to Mozambique. Guenther Kleiber and his delegation traveled on a special flight and were welcomed at the airport by Jorge Rebelo, member of the Frelimo Party Central Committee Political Bureau. During its stay in Mozambique, the German delegation will hold talks with Frelimo Party officials and review bilateral cooperation in various fields.

Begins Talks With Frelimo

MB091419 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Talks between high-level delegations of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] and the Frelimo Party began in Maputo this morning with the aim of expanding the existing levels of cooperation and assistance between the GDR and Mozambique. The delegations are led by Guenther Kleiber, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo; and Jorge Rebelo, member of the Frelimo Party Central Committee Political Bureau.

Speaking on the occasion, Jorge Rebelo said the presence in Mozambique of the high-level SED delegation is yet another example of GDR solidarity, which is expressed in both happy and trying times, such as those presently faced by our country. Guenther Kleiber then introduced his delegation, which includes high-ranking SED Central Committee cadres, some of whom form part of a consultant group to be established at a later stage.

The head of the SED delegation laid a wreath at the Mozambique Heroes Monument earlier.

Meets With Machungo

MB092011 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Prime Minister Mario Machungo said in Maputo today that relations between Mozambique and the GDR have strengthened increasingly in recent times. Speaking during a working meeting with a delegation headed by Guenther Kleiber, GDR Council of Ministers deputy chairman, Mario Machungo expressed gratitude for the GDR's support during the Mozambican people's mourning for the death of President Samora Machel in the Mbuzini crash.

Guenther Kleiber began his visit to our country last Saturday.

NAMIBIA

Minister Welcomes Nujoma Interest in Talks

MB091832 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1739 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Windhoek, March 9, SAPA — The SWA/Namibian transitional cabinet welcomed the "willingness of SWAPO's leader, Mr Sam Nujoma, to enter into discussions on means to secure the territory's independence, the minister of information and justice, Mr Fanuel Kozonguizi, said in Windhoek today. [quotation marks as received]

He was responding in a statement to remarks by Mr Nujoma in Harare at the weekend that SWAPO was prepared to hold talks with South Africa in preparation for implementation of a United Nations-sponsored settlement plan in SWA/Namibia.

"If he (Mr Nujoma) is prepared to stop sending young Namibians to their deaths on the border and, instead, begin to talk, everyone in SWA/Namibia will welcome it," Mr Kozonguizi said.

"SWAPO cannot win — after 20 years of armed struggle they do not control a single square centimetre of Namibia. As we in the government have been saying for some years now, its is time to end this stupidity."

The statement noted that Mr Nujoma still talked about discussions with South Africa. "We have made it clear that we are the interlocutors on this question," Mr Kozonguiizi said. "Mr Nujoma should stop sheltering behind attempts to talk to South Africa and address himself to the people whom the dispute affects most directly, the people of SWA/Namibia," he added.

SWAPO President on 4-Day Official Visit to Spain

For reportage of the visit by SWAPO President Sam Nujoma to Spain, see the Spain section of the 9 March Western Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

SOUTH AFRICA

Police Serve Order To Seize 10 Mar STAR Copies

MB100842 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0836 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Johannesburg March 10 SAPA — Police arrived at the offices of *The Star* in Johannesburg today with a document ordering the seizure of any edition of today's newspaper in which an advertisement entitled "National Detainees Day — Thursday 12th March 1987 — 9 Months of Emergency" appears.

Two security policemen presented the editor of *The Star*, Mr Harvey Tyson, with the order signed by the divisional commissioner of police for the Witwatersrand, Major-General Mulder van Eyk.

The advertisement in question was placed by the Detainees Parents Support Committee [DPSC] and was to appear on page 4 of *The Star* today. Mr Tyson said after the police visit he believed the advertisement to be completely legal. It had been submitted to *The Star's* legal advisers before publication.

It contained material differences from the advertisement published in *City Press* last week, which resulted in police issuing a warning that it should not be published.

After consultation, one policeman returned to John Vorster Square to seek legal advice before the presses began rolling.

The Star also sought additional advice from its legal team.

One security policeman remained on the premises.

The full order read: "Under the powers vested in me in terms of Regulation 6 of the regulations under the Public Safety Act, 1953 (Act 3 of 1953) promulgated by Proclamation R224 of 11 December 1986 as amended, I, Mulder van Eyk, divisional commissioner South African police for the division Witwatersrand, hereby order the seizure of any edition of *The Star* newspaper in which an advertisement, entitled National Detainees Day, Thursday 12th March 1987, 9 Months of the Emergency issued by the Detainees Parents Support Committee is published."

Edition Published

MB101002 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1001 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Johannesburg March 10 SAPA — Early editions of *The Star* newspaper containing an advert calling for a national detainees day on Thursday hit the streets of Johannesburg this morning despite police warnings that the edition would be seized.

The Star's editor, Mr Harvey Tyson, told SAPA he was satisfied the advert did not contravene the emergency regulations and had decided to go ahead and publish.

"We are convinced that we have acted legally in the matter. The problem is that this does not prevent the police from going ahead and taking action," he said.

The edition also contained a front-page editorial explaining the newspaper's reasons for going ahead with publication.

So far no action has been taken against the paper by police.

This morning two security policemen from John Vorster Square arrived a *The Star* offices with orders to seize any edition containing the advert placed by the Detainees Parents Support Committee (DPSC) calling for a national fast on Thursday to commemorate nine months of the State of Emergency.

The policeman presented Mr Tyson with the order signed by the commissioner of police for the Witwatersrand, Maj-Gen Mulder van Eyk.

Mr Tyson said the advert was different to the one published in

The City Press on Friday that sparked police warnings that action would be taken against papers which carried the ad.

After consultation, one policeman went back to John Vorster Square to take advice and *The Star* sought additional advice from its lawyers before going ahead with publication.

The second policeman remained on the premises.

Mr Tyson said he had tried to contact Maj-Gen van Eyk to find out what action the police planned to take. The general was, however, on his way to Pretoria and unavailable for consultation at the time the editions appeared.

The full order read: "Under the powers vested in me in terms of regulation 6 of the regulations under the Public Safety Act, 1953 (Act 3 of 1953) promulgated by Proclamation R224 of 11 December 1986 as amended, I Mulder van Eyk, divisonal commissioner South African police for the division Witwatersrand, hereby order the seizure of any edition of *The Star* newspaper in which an advertisement, entitled National Detainees Day, Thursday 12th March 1987, 9 Months of the Emergency isued by the Detainees Parents Support Committee is published."

STAR Seeks Court Order

MB101126 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1124 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Johannesburg, March 10, SAPA — Police today attempted to seize *The Star* to prevent the newspaper publishing an advertisement placed by the Detainees Parents Support Committee [DPSC]. *The Star* brought an urgent application in the Rand Supreme Court seeking an order that the advertisement was legal as published.

If the order was granted, *The Star* would seek an additional order preventing the police from unlawfully seizing copies of the newspapers. *The Star* was bringing its application as a matter of urgency before the main editions of the newspaper were published.

The Star stood to lose, in monetary terms alone, R500,000 in cover price, advertising revenue, and newsprint costs, apart from other large losses if the newspaper were seized, said editor-in-chief Mr Harvey Tyson.

The application was planned after *The Star* was unable to ascertain from the police whether they would act against the newspaper.

Paper Claims Government Interfering in Newscasts

MB091733 Johannesburg THE STAR in English 9 Mar 87 p 1

[By Susan Pleming]

[Text] The Bureau for Information has been directly interfering with SABC-TV news broadcasts and has telephoned news staff to give orders about which stories should appear in bulletins.

Interference by the bureau became so bad at the end of last year that the editor-in-chief of news and public affairs (TV), Mr J.L. Pretorius, told his staff to inform the bureau they could not receive orders directly from it.

Mr Pretorius also complained about "others in the service of the Government" who were interfering with SABC news content.

The Star has in its possession a "daily instruction" sheet from Mr Pretorius to his staff on November 4 last year warning them of bureau interference.

It reads: "An urgent request: officials of the Bureau for Information and others in the service of the Government have recently been dealing directly with people on the (news) desk.

"They have also been calling the studios directly and have been giving orders as to which stories should appear in the bulletin."

Specific reference was made to the bureau telephoning staff when news bulletins were being televised.

Mr Pretorius told his staff that bureau officials should be told to consult editors or executive editors about stories.

The same instruction sheet told reporters not to refer to the Bureau for Information's R4.3 million song as the "Info Song."

"This tag has received negative connections and is being used by the Press. As far as we are concerned it is the Bureau for Information's Peace Song."

The head of the Bureau for Information, Mr Dave Steward, said claims that his staff were interfering with news bulletins must have arisen from "some misunderstanding" between his department and the SABC.

"There has never been a shadow of a claim of this nature between the SABC and the bureau...we will be contacting the SABC to find out what has happened."

To his knowledge. Mr Steward said, his department had not telephoned the news department before or during a news bulletin to say what should be broadcast.

Mr Pretorius refused to comment on the internal daily instruction sheet.

SABC-TV Issues Statement

MB091741 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1646 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Johannesburg Mar 9 SAPA — SABC-TV has denied reports that the Bureau for Information had claimed any right to decide on the content of its news bulletins.

The statement was issued in response to a report in *The Star* which claimed that the bureau had interfered with SABC-TV news broadcasts, and SABC news staff had been instructed not to accept orders from bureau staff.

The statement said the SABC-TV news department had set certain guidelines for the gathering of news which applied to its journalists. The editor in chief of news and public affairs, Mr J. L. Pretorius had issued an instruction that the public should not liaise directly with journalists at their desks.

Mr Pretorius said officials of the bureau, as suppliers of news, had at a stage last year contacted SABC journalists directly and asked them to broadcast news at quickly as possible.

After Mr Pretorius's notice was issued the matter was solved, and since November last year there had been no further problems.

Bureau Head Denies Charge

MB091858 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1800 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Pretoria March 9 SAPA — There could be no question of the Bureau for Information prescribing to the SABC what should or should not be included in its broadcasts, Mr Dave Steward, head of the bureau, said tonight.

In a statement reacting to the Johannesburg *Star* newspaper's report today that the bureau had been "meddling" with SABC's news bulletins, Mr Steward said the article appeared to be referring to SABC directive issued to new staff on November 4 last year.

"The bureau liaises on a regular basic with the SABC as it does with the local and foreign media. As is well-known, it has also been the official spokesman during the State of Emergency and has in this capacity conveyed information to the media on a regular basis.

"There can, however, be no question of the bureau prescribing to the SABC what should or should not be included in SABC broadcasts," Mr Steward said.

He said that according to *The Star*, the SABC directive was issued following a programme called "Together We Will Build a Brighter Future." He said an official of the bureau had apparently requested the SABC to correct an inaccuracy in the report.

"It is naturally the right of any person or organisation to request correction of an inaccurate report, whether it appears on SABC or any other news medium."

He said there may have been other instances where bureau officials contacted SABC staff directly with urgent news stories.

"Any idea that by so doing they wished to prescribe to the SABC...is mistaken," Mr Steward said.

He said this misunderstanding "probably arose because the correct channels of communication were not followed in all instances."

Dr de Klerk Claims Pressure Came From P.W. Botha

MB091445 London BBC World Service in English 1309 GMT 9 Mar 87

[From the "24 Hours" program]

[Text] The rebellion within the ranks of South Africa's ruling National Party gathered strength over the weekend with the resignation of one of Afrikanerdom's most influential newspaper editors, Dr Willem de Klerk. His brother, a senior cabinet minister, has himself been making the news today with comments about the failure of government strategy. But Willem de Klerk relinquished his post as editor of *Rapport* because he felf himself quite out of tune with the present direction of the government, as he told our South Africa correspondent, Graham Leach.

[Begin recording] [De Klerk] In the first place, it's mainly a political reason. There was a lot of pressure on me from the government and the people in government circles that my paper is too sympathetic toward the independent movement in South Africa. It was too enlightened. That was the word going on, going around, and I was pushed very hard that I must be more tolerant with the National Party and its aims. To be quite frank, I have tried that, because I believe in the National Party as a vehicle for change. I have tried that, but, being a newsman, I believe that all the action of political thought in South Africa and of the white electorate must be incorporated in your paper and in your journalism.

[Leach] Now, what form did that pressure take?

[De Klerk] It was demonstrated mainly through the board of directors. The state president told me so directly on several occasions, that he is not pleased with my kind of political journalism and that I am not furthering the aims of the National Party. I couldn't take it anymore. I couldn't put my political credibility at stake to be a propagandist for certain aims of the National Party that I simply don't believe in.

[Leach] So, as you describe it, President Botha would feel aggrieved at something or several things you had written and contact personally your board of directors and have the word passed on that Dr de Klerk has got to stop it. Is that how it worked?

[De Klerk] I think so, yes. I still believe that there is freedom of the press in the context of Africa, but I think that especially the state president — and certain members of cabinet — is very, very hard to the press and that press freedom and the integrity of political journalism is really, to a certain point, in danger in South Africa, especially in the Afrikaans papers. [end recording]

Pik Botha Criticizes Independents, Sanctions

MB100446 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2224 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 9, SAPA — The independents in the forthcoming election were giving rise to expectations they would not be able to fulfill, the minister foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said today.

Speaking at the National Party's launch of its elections campaign at a meeting at the Norwood primary school, he said it would have been better for the independent candidates to have remained in the National Party and helped to wrestle with the problems facing the country.

He said he believed they had the right to differ politically and to seek support from voters for their views.

"But I differ most strongly when they demand faster change. They must tell me in which respect they want faster and what they would have changed faster; which laws would they have repealed earlier and with whose support."

He said they would have achieved more towards "making the car move faster" by remaining in the party than by standing alone..

Mr Botha said if a government moved ahead of the people it would be rejected. At present the government could only be replaced by a right-wing government.

"I do not know if one PFP member who believes his party could take over the government."

People who believed the pace of reform was too slow should join the National Party and discuss the matter from within.

He said it was "dishonest and a lie" to suggest that reform had come to a halt in South Africa. This was typical of the "intolerance of the arch liberals who buy apartheid and live in ivory towers."

If the PFP came to power and attempted to enforce its policy of integration it would lead to a situation similar to which existed in Lebanon.

"The message that must go to the outside world is that South Africa must solve its own problems. The outside world will not prescribe how to run Johannesburg or South Africa."

He said overseas pressure was suffocating the country at a time when it was moving ahead with reform.

"Sanctions are the most deceitful and sophisticated means of creating violence because sanctions cause unemployment which leads to violence."

He said many of the announcements on reform made in the last year have not been implemented yet because of the large costs involved and the problems caused by sanctions.

The government was willing to negotiate a new constitution with black, white, coloured and Asian leaders but was not prepared to do so under duress from overseas or with people who advocated violence in the form of "necklace killings."

Mr Botha — who delivered his entire speech in English — said he was prepared to seek the removal of more discriminatory measures and to allow people the right to human dignity but was not prepared to hand over to Marxism and anarchy.

"Even Mrs Helen Suzman (PFP MP for Houghton) knows very well that even the PFP will not be able to satisfy the demands from abroad. All that will satisfy them is a hand over power to a bunch of Marxists."

Mr Botha said he had been accused of using overseas intervention as an election ploy.

"But are we supposed to say to the U.S. Congress that we accept they made a right to tell us to play into the hands of Marxists."

Mr Botha received a standing ovation from the overcrowded hall which was said to hold 400. A large number of the audience were from the Portuguese community.

Pik Botha on White Objections to Black Diplomats

MB100449 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2248 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 9 SAPA — Many white South Africans were not ready to accept black diplomats in their residential areas, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said at a National Party meeting today.

He said the Group Areas Act did not apply to black diplomats but he had still received complaints about black neighbours from people who lived in areas such as Waterkloof, which he referred to as the Houghton of Pretoria.

"I have received petitions from PFP, NP and CP supporters all saying they do not want a black diplomat living next door to them. The matter is bigger than party politics.

"I don't want unsavoury incidents, nor do I want their car tyres to be cut to pieces or their cars spray painted."

Even in Johannesburg there had been objections from neighbours to a coloured diplomat living in a white area.

He said he did not believe in forcing apartheid nor integration on people. They should be allowed to develop their own community life and eventually be able to come together in one government without dominating each other.

Independents Issue Joint Campaign Statement

MB091152 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1151 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Johannesburg, March 9, SAPA — Three rebel Nationalists Dr Denis Worrall, Dr Esther Lategan, and Mr Wynand Malan today said restrictions on black politics and the media must be eased to stimulate constitutional dialogue in South Africa. In the first joint statement of their common compaign as independent candidates in the forthcoming white elections, the trio said "black politics must be freed" and "there must be a free flow of information" for moderates of all races to begin negotiation.

Dr Worrall, former ambassador to London; Dr Lategan, a businesswoman and former NP member from Stellenbosch; and Mr Malan, former MP Randburg, are contesting key constituencies in a bid to capture the voters of Nationalist supporters disenchanted with the government's slow pace of reform.

"There is still time to fulfill the common vision of the moderate majority which occupies the middle ground in South African politics. This middle ground transcends colour lines. The time has come to turn that vision into reality by starting negotiations that can be seen by all to be negotiations," the statement said. Their policy statement said moderates of all races in South Africa were seeking a political programme to express a new spirit that "seeks a democratic South Africa with equal rights and safety fo all its citizens."

The following were starting points that could give impetus to such a policy:

— The chief justice or a senior magistrate must collate and publish all options for a new constitution so that political groups could have a common starting point for negotiations.

— "Black politics must be freed so that it may become properly organised. Action against politicians and political organisations must cease but emergency powers must be secured to ensure stability during the transition period."

— The courts and judicial procedures must be reinstated during this period.

— Only a free flow of information would ensure proper political debate and full participation in decision-making.

— Deadlines must be set for the scrapping of all discriminatory laws, including the Group Areas Act.

— A bill of rights to protect individual liberties, freedom of association, and group rights such as religion, language, and culture must be drawn up.

— The KwaNatal Indaba was a good example of the way regional cooperation could encourage negotiation.

— Deregulation of the economy was essential so that "all may share in a strong economy."

The statement stressed that the new spirit of unity and dialogue demanded a commitment to a united South Africa and did not encompass the aims of "extremist groups on the Right and Left."

"With a flexible programme aimed at this shared vision, local and overseas confidence in the country will be restored and our economy will revive. In this way South Africans will again be able to face the future with confidence.

"South Africa can be a peaceful and successful place. But we must shake ourselves out of our political paralysis. The new spirit already exists. We did not create it. We are merely its focal point. We are not a political party. It would be presumptuous now to confine or inhibit this new, dynamic spirit. However, we do accept that this spirit is directed at the general election which constitutionally must be held at the end of 1989."

Worrall Elaborates on Manifesto

MB100505 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2208 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Cape Town, March 9, SAPA — The former ambassador to Britain, Dr Denis Worrall, tonight dissociated himself from a one-man, one-vote system of government and said he and other independent election candidates would not commit themselves to any particular future constitution.

Addressing the Jews for Justice Organisation in Cape Town, he elaborated on the election manifesto released by the three today and said it was aimed chiefly at starting constitutional negotiation among all South Africans.

Referring to the manifesto's statement that all constitutional options for South Africa should be published, Dr Worrall said the belief that there was only a choice between "tinkering with the status quo" and one-man, one-vote had to be allayed.

"We (the independent candidates) say that is not the case. There are many different forms (of constitution) and they need to be put on the table."

"Until people are given the chance to be for things rather than against everything, we will remain far from the kind of negotiation we want to see."

Dr Worrall also referred to the manifesto's call for the creation of regional political initiatives such as the KwaNatal Indaba.

He said he and the other two independent candidates in the election, Mr Wynand Malan of Randburg and Dr Esther Lategan of Stellenbosch, accepted that there was no single uniform constitutional option for South Africa.

They would not commit themselves to any particular constitution for this reason and because this could be seen as prescriptive.

He said that he, however, "would personally dissociate myself from unitarianism in a majority state."

The government's decision to reject the Natal Indaba had been a "very serious mistake." He did not want to comment on the nature of the proposals but beleived Natalians should have the option to state their views on the measure.

Referring to provision in the manifesto for the scrapping of discriminatory laws, Dr Worrall said this could be done "almost immediately."

He also said that this had to be related to the recognition of group rights based on language or culture.

"The building blocks for South Africa should not be racial groups prescribed by law but groups based on voluntary association."

This was extremely important as the "hard core" of South

Africa's white population — the Afrikaners — had rights which had to be acknowledged.

Dr Worrall said he and the other independent candidates had been "compelled" to issue their declaration because the government's election manifesto was "a cop-out."

"The government is not facing up to fundamental issues." These included the scrapping of the Group Areas Act and school apartheid.

The government's statement that it wanted a mandate from the voters for further reform was insulting to all South Africans.

"The need to negotiate with blacks is so obvious you do not need approval for it."

Dr Worrall said the participation of the independents in the election campaign had focused more dramatically on the two fundamental issues of the ending of apartheid and political rights for all South Africans. He acknowledged, however, that these issues were being addressed by groups such as the Progressive Federal Party.

Of his chances of success in the Helderberg constituency, where he is facing the minister of constitutional development, Mr Chris Heunis, Dr Worrall said to win the solid NP seat had never been possible before.

"But it is winnable now because I believe the government has totally underestimated the readiness of white South Africans to face up to the fundamental problems of South Africa."

Sees Slowing of Reform

MB100508 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0015 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Cape Town, March 9, SAPA — South African political representatives abroad had felt they were "treading water" on reform from the beginning of 1985, the former ambassador to Britain, Dr Denis Worrall, said tonight.

Addressing about 1,000 people at a Jews for Justice meeting in Cape Town, he said the pace of change had slowed "very considerably indeed" after the implementation of the new constitution in 1984.

The government had concentrated on diplomatic initiatives such as the Nkomati Accord and the visit by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, to Europe, instead of quickly following up the question of black political rights, as the President's Council had urged it to do.

Dr Worrall recalled other events between 1983 and last year that ended in "the lid being very firmly" placed on reform with the referral back to the President's Council of its report on the Group Areas Act and the NP's rejection of the Kwazulu-Natal Indaba.

They included:

— The Uitenhage shooting and the portrayal of township violence on television overseas "on an unbelievable scale." He believed the reporting of violence on television had swung the United States against South Africa.

— The 1985 Rubicon speech, which was "an unmitigated disaster";

— The Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group's [EPG] visit, which failed "very largely due to the lack of patience" of the EPG, "although South Africa diplomacy could have been better."

Dr Worrall also said he had no reservations about his service as ambassador in Britain.

Referring to introductory remarks by the chairman of the meeting that he had defended "an indefensible case" in Britain, he said his job had been to represent more than the government.

"My job was to represent the country and its people, and all points of view in South Africa."

Buthelezi, Vlok Meet; Police Powers Issue Raised

MB091632 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1520 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Durban, Mar 9, SAPA — An appeal for police stations in Kwazulu to be handed over to his government was made at Ulundi today by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi. The chief minister also said he wanted to point out that the vast majority of black South Africans did not want a bloody revolution which could lead to a race war — they simply wanted the means to defend themselves.

He told the minister of law and order, Mr A.J. Vlok — in Ulundi for a meeting with Chief Buthelezi — "we face arson and murder, and we are expected to combat the threat to our lives, limbs, and property with our bare hands. AK rifles, hand grenades, and bombs have maimed and killed Inkatha members and even members of the Kwazulu Legislative Assembly. We need to be put in a position where we can defend that which so badly needs to be defended."

Chief Buthelezi restated his opposition to apartheid which he termed "the root cause of the national crisis into which South Africa has been thrust."

He blamed the National Party for not grappling with the kernel issue of unrest — the lack of fundamental rights for blacks. "I believe the state president is well intentioned and he has, as I have said publicly before, pointed his feet in the direction of statesmanship. However, I also believe that the pace and the scope of his reform programme has thus far proven to be woefully inadequate."

But he added that he found himself unable to agree that the South African Government must be destroyed through military and revolutionary means.

He also was totally unable to accept that the politics of negotiation could now not succeed.

"I believe that the South African parliamentary system can be reformed to give blacks a meaningful stake in their country. I believe that those who are committed to the employment that violence as much against politics of negotiations as they are employing it against apartheid."

The Kwazulu government and the Kwazulu police needed to be put in a position "to rally the cause of the people to eradicate the kind of brutality which is now inherent in intimidatory politics and particularly for the black community to be put in a position where they can protect themselves from such brutality within the law.

"Our ability to serve the whole of South Africa will be greatly enhanced were we to embark on a programme of the rapid handing over of police stations which are in Kwazulu," Chief Buthelezi said.

He had to pursue his objective of non-violent change, while violence flared all around him. "I continually work to create the climate in which negotiations can take place. The curbing of intimidatory violence is one of the endeavours that I continue to make. I sincerely hope the South African Government will not continue to tie my hands at this level of leadership simply because I am an enemy of apartheid."

Information Bureau Reports 9 March Unrest

MB100814 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0812 GMT 10 March 87

[Text] Pretoria, March 10, SAPA — The Bureau for Information's unrest report for the period 0001 to 2400 March 9:

"Three members of the security forces, Sgnt Mollendorf, Const T. Qungqawa, and Const R. Sipho were wounded when shots were fired at them in Guguletu (Cape Town) yesterday while on patrol. No arrests have yet been made. During initial investigations the SAP found 28 AK47 cartridges on the scene. The investigation is continuing.

"A hand grenade was thrown at the house of a council member in Meadowlands (Soweto) last night. The grenade missed his house and exploded on the roof of the house next door causing minimal damage. No injuries or arrests were reported.

"Petrol bombs were thrown at two private homes yesterday. These incidents occurred in Sebokeng (Vanderbijlpark) and Umlazi (Durban) respectively. No injuries or arrests were reported and damage was minimal.

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB100930 [Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN: NP Only Vehicle for Reform

Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 9 March says in its page 6 editorial that the Argus-saan (South African Associated Newspapers) are trying to suggest that there is an anti-P.W. Botha "revolt over his style of government and his failure to end apartheid." "It is on the issue of reform that he is least deserving of criticism, for Mr Botha is the Great Reformer — a man who brought about more change in five years than anyone could have expected." "The ferment in Afrikaner academic and business circles has focused attention on the need for faster change. But more importantly, it is absolutely vital to have a dispensation involving blacks, for without it the country will have no chance of getting out of its cycles of periodic unrest that began with Sharpeville." "The only vehicle for reform is the NP as government."

THE STAR: NP Harassment Increases

A page 10 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 9 March notes that: "Surely not even the most deluded of National Party leaders can any longer pretend that the party is properly in control of itself, its followers or the country. Weekend developments included a highly critical manifesto from 28 Stellenbosch academics and the resignation of the editor of *Rapport*, Dr Willem de Klerk, in part because of political harassment by the NP." The paper says the government has "tampered with the courts, subverted justice, promoted discriminatory laws and forced thousands from their homes. Latterly it has dragged tens of thousands into detention and licensed security forces to do virtually what they liked. Each day fewer people believe what the Government says about anything."

P.W. Botha Reluctant To Release Namibia

Brendan Seery writes on the same page that "the southern African diplomatic ball is well and truly in State President Mr Botha's court, enthusiastically lobbed there by SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma and Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda." "Mr Botha might find it easy to dismiss out of hand a call for talks by the leader of a 'terrorist' organisation but when that call is backed by the considerable influence of Kenneth Kaunda it is more difficult to reject lightly." "Making visible moves towards a solution of the Namibian question might even take some of the wind out of the sails of the sanctions lobby overseas and persuade the world that Mr Botha is serious about his steps along the road to reform." "Everything boils down to whether South Africa is prepared to let Namibia go. As time goes by, more and more white South Africans are coming to regard Namibia as their country's Vietnam — questioning whether young white boys should be dying for what is not their country."

BUSINESS DAY on Relocation of Blacks

"Last year government moved 64,000 black people because it thought it knew best where they should live," says a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 9 March. "It still wants to move 27,000 people from where they want to be to where government in its wisdom believes they will be better off. Apartheid is supposedly an outdated concept, but the social engineering of black destinies continues. Influx control laws have gone, and black urbanisation is now official policy, but black people are still denied the freedom to choose where they will live."

Opposition Voters to Shape Future

Ken Owen writes on the same page that the NP is a two-headed beast and that "in wealthier and more sophisticated communities, the left-side head of the National Party argues that the Wynand Malan-Denis Worrall reformists are making a mistake because reform can best be pursued within the party. In poorer and rural communities, the right-side head argues that the Conservative Party breakaways are making a mistake because Afrikaner hegemony can best be preserved within the party." Owen believes that in the coming election the NP will be returned to power with a reduced majority but the risk of this election is that "the Conservative Party, the HNP and the AWB might capture the official Opposition and emerge from the fight looking like the wave of the future." "The NP must, given its Pushmi-pullyu natures, stand paralysed and ineffectual, or continue to tear itself apart. The crucial issue is not whether the NP loses seats, or how many, but whether the PFP or the CP emerges after the election as the greater threat to the NP." "Opposition voters have the chance in this election, to decide whether the NP is to be dominated by Pushmi or Pullyu. The future will be shaped, perhaps irretrievable, by the number of votes cast on the left and the right."

CITY PRESS Supports Detainees' Day

The page 2 editorial in Johannesburg *City Press* in English on 8 March comments on the call to join in observing National Detainees' Day this coming Thursday saying, "it is a call that this newspaper wholly supports in view of the horrendous element that has been introduced since the present State of Emergency was declared — that of having children for the first time being subjected to the harsh laws of imprisonment without trial." Incarcerating people "makes a mockery" of any attempts to make reconciliation a reality.

SOWETAN on Rent Boycotts

"We are getting increasingly angry at the way the rent boycott problem is being addressed by the authorities," says the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 9 March. "The Soweto City Council is trying all the failed ways that have been tried to pressurise residents into paying. When the boycotts started in the Vaal in 1984 the councillors panicked and tried all types of infantile ways to get the people to pay. They failed. Many people who live under the Lekoa Town Council's control are still not paying their rent. They tried switching off lights. They tried evicting people. They tried taking residents to court. They never once, as far as we know, tried to sort out the problem with the people."

BEELD on Disinvestment

Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 6 March says in a page 10 editorial that "last year emotions were running high in the world that South Africa would be destroyed, at whatever cost, in the name of justice — even if black people have to suffer in the process." However, "the world has suffered a rude awakening. When the U.S. motor company General Motors decided to withdraw from South Africa, the activists realized that disinvestment is linked to employment and that it will leave many blacks without an income." "Slowly it begins to dawn on all that the economic lot of white and black in South Africa cannot be separated. If one group is subjected to sanctions then the other group has to suffer too. The question now is, how are the activists going to halt the momentum for disinvestment?"

BEELD on RAPPORT Editor Resignation

A page 8 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 9 March says: "The reform which has taken place in the last couple of years, would hardly be possible if the Afrikaans newspapers did not create the necessary climate for it. For that we did not expect any thanks and received precious little. For one of our colleagues to give 'political pressure' as one of the reasons for his resignation as editor of *Rapport*, gives that pressure an importance which is not normally given by our Afrikaans editors. Our own opinion is that you do no one a favor by being a yes-man. We believe that this opinion will also be that of the next *Rapport* editor. The present politics-and-press situation will basically remain the same."

DIE REPUBLIKEIN on SWAPO Detention Camps

A page 4 editorial in Windhoek *Die Republikein* in Afrikaans on 5 March says that "the investigation by the World Federation of Lutheran Churches into SWAPO detention camps in Zambia and Angola is going to be the political picnic of the year." "We know of individuals and groups within SWAPO who are seriously concerned about conditions in the SWAPO camps. It is our knowledge that information about the camps has been kept from people and that these people have been prevented from visiting the camps. Now the World Federation and certain church leaders from SWA/Namibia are going to visit the camps. We can only accept that these people have been chosen with the greatest discretion by SWAPO."